

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 81

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, 2011

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
Do you fully understand CUC's explanation why it is asking for an increase in its electric base rates?

Let your voice be heard!  
Go to  
[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)  
to cast your vote.

## INSIDE



### Radioactive Water

More than 3 million gallons of contaminated water are pumped into the Pacific Ocean.

ASIA...Page 15



### Open Fire

The United Nations and French forces open fire on the arsenal of Ivory Coast's ruler.

WORLD...Page 16



### New Arthur

If you have fond memories of "Arthur," that says a couple of things about you.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

## IN LIGHT OF REDUCED CNMI REVENUES

# 'Keep open mind on Saipan casinos'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
[haidee\\_eugenio@saipantribune.com](mailto:haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

With projected revenues for fiscal year 2011 reduced by \$10.565 million to \$122 million and the 2012 budget only at \$102 million, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial asked senators for the first time to "keep an open mind" on having casinos on Saipan.

See KEEP on Page 4



Fitial

## 'Investors want to buy Palms Resort, Plumeria'

Palms also considered to temporarily house Japan's quake, tsunami victims

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
[haidee\\_eugenio@saipantribune.com](mailto:haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and United Micronesian Development Association chair Joe Lifofoi separately said yesterday that foreign investors are offering to

buy Palms Resort Saipan in San Roque and Plumeria Resort in Achugao.

Fitial met with a group of Chinese investors who he said are now "under negotiation" to buy Plumeria Resort.

See INVESTORS on Page 4

## 2011's first tropical storm hits NI

### Storm Condition II declared for Agrihan, Pagan, Alamagan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

A tropical depression that developed west of the Marianas was expected to intensify into a tropical storm Tuesday night through Wednesday in the Northern Islands.

Because of the anticipated threat of Tropical Depression 2W,

## RELATED NEWS

Mariners warned to exercise caution.

PAGE 7

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial declared Tropical Storm Condition II for the islands of Agrihan, Pagan, and Alamagan yesterday afternoon.

Condition II means that tropical storm force winds of 40 miles per hour are expected within 24 hours.

According to the Emergency Management Office and the National Weather Service in

See 2011 on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

### LUXURY CRUISE

Passengers of MS Sun Princess walk back to their mammoth cruise ship at the Port of Saipan in Lower Base yesterday afternoon, hours before the 9:30pm departure. Commonwealth Ports Authority's seaport manager MaryAnn Lizama says the cruise ship had 1,899 passengers and 854 crew members. MS Sun Princess, whose voyage originated in Australia, came from South Korea and China before arriving on Saipan at 11:30am yesterday. See story on Page 2

**Red Cross pledges 10 pct. of walkathon proceeds to Japan relief. PAGE 2**  
**Pacific airport execs commit to aviation safety. PAGE 3**

**VALUE PLANS**  
**TO FIT ANY BUDGET**  
**UNLIMITED** local SMS  
**UNLIMITED** Nights and Weekends

AS LOW AS  
**\$25\***  
/month

**CONNECT**  
[iconnectsaipan.com](http://iconnectsaipan.com)  
GUAM/SAIPAN OFFICE 888.8888

\*Free phone models subject to availability and its replacement is at discretion of management. Subject to 12-month contract. Unlimited Nights and Weekends include PTT and local calls only. Some conditions apply.

# Local

## Red Cross pledges 10 pct. of walkathon proceeds to Japan relief

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter has pledged to donate up to 10 percent of the proceeds from the 25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon this Saturday to aid relief efforts for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami devastation in Japan.

"It [25th Annual Red Cross Walkathon fundraising] goes to support primarily our local operations here in the Commonwealth but we will also kind of set aside up to 10 percent or around \$5,000 which we will contribute to the Japanese Red Cross," said executive director John Hirsh during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting yesterday.

The annual walkathon, a big fundraiser for the local chapter of the international premier emergency response organization, culminates the celebration of American Red Cross month.

The walkathon, which marks its silver anniversary,

will be held simultaneously on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota at 6am on April 9.

On Saipan, the walk will begin at the 4-H Building in Susupe to Garapan Fishing Base and back. On Tinian, the walk will start at the Taga Beach; on Rota, it will commence at the Guata Park.

"We're really excited. We've got a lot of participation from the community again," said Hirsh, adding that the "backbone" of the event is the Public School System.

Hirsh said fundraising for the Japan cause through the walkathon is part of the international Red Cross movement to help raise money for the Japanese Red Cross.

According to Hirsh, the NMI Chapter has already raised about \$35,000 to support relief efforts. "That's a fairly large amount given the size of our community," he added.

Across the nation, Hirsh said about \$120 million have already been funneled directly to the

Japanese Red Cross.

"The American Red Cross is really hinging a lot of its response activities on the capacity of the Japanese Red Cross," adding that the chapter is one of the largest, even larger than the American Red Cross.

Hirsh said the Japanese Red Cross has over two million volunteers throughout the country who run some 100 hospitals, have helicopter fleets, and a very extensive experience in handling natural disasters like earthquakes.

"There isn't a lot that any other Red Cross society in the world can actually teach the Japanese Red Cross. And because they have so many volunteers on the ground who can speak, read, and write fluent Japanese, it makes sense to financially support what's going on out there," he said.

Hirsh said the 9.0-magnitude earthquake that hit Japan was the fourth strongest earthquake since 1900 and caused a 30-foot high tsunami that inundated 433,000 square kilometers of land area.

Current statistics shows that there have been 11,600 fatalities and over 17,000 are still missing as 20 international rescue teams from 15 countries continue their search efforts to find more bodies.

With preliminary damages estimated at some \$309 billion, Hirsh said it will take time for Japan to fully recover.

"It's a desperately long process, as we all know, that's going to take years and years for the folks up there to fully recover," he said.

Hirsh commended the Rotarians and the entire community for their efforts to help raise funds for the victims and urged them and the business community to participate on Saturday's walkathon.

"It's a great way to do some team building. It's good to get your employees out together, walk together and help raise money for the Red Cross," he said.

For more information, call Red Cross at 234-3459.

## PIC contributes to Japan disaster relief

The Pacific Islands Club Saipan has participated in the fundraising efforts of the Japan disaster relief sponsored by the CNMI government and various organizations.

"Join Us Help Japan" donation boxes were placed throughout the hotel where employees and guests were able to contribute to the worthy cause for the

past two weeks. Nearly \$500 in cash was donated by the staff and hotel guests.

PIC Saipan also joined in the fundraising event held at the Garapan Fishing Base last week. As part of the fundraising activities, PIC general manager Kieran Daly was "jailed" and "bailed out" for \$500.

In addition, the Pacific Islands

Club contributed \$2,500 to the Japan disaster relief.

PIC Japan marketing manager Masatoshi Otsuka and executive assistant Vicky Benavente presented the donations to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio and MVA Japan marketing manager Hiroko Tenorio. (PIC)

## Aussie cruise ship swings by Saipan

A cruise ship carrying nearly 3,000 visitors docked yesterday at the Port of Saipan for a one-day shopping and sightseeing on island, a move welcomed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

According to CPA seaport manager Mary Ann Q. Lizama, the MS *Sun Princess* sailed into the dock yesterday morning at 11:30am with 1,899 passengers and 853 crewmembers. The

vessel was on a day trip to the island and was scheduled to depart at 9:30pm last night.

The vessel came from Australia and its passengers were mostly Australians. The vessel's agent is Saipan Shipping.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that this was the cruise ship's second visit to Saipan. It was a year ago when the same vessel brought to the island hundreds of tourists for a few days of relaxation.

Lizama said that yesterday's passengers were accommodated by 22 tour buses upon arrival, courtesy of Tasi Tours, Pacific Development Inc., and Top Development Inc.

Since January this year, four cruise vessels have already visited the island. Another one, Lizama said, is expected soon.

The Saipan port sees about four to seven visiting vessels each year. (Moneth G. Deposa)



From left, Masatoshi Otsuka and Vicky Benavente, Pacific Islands Club representatives, present a donation to MVA managing director Perry Tenorio and MVA marketing manager Hiroko Tenorio.

**Anniversary Sale**  
From April 8 to May 10 2011  
30% on selected items  
15% on regular priced items  
(including accessories and jewelries)  
LOCATED ACROSS KRISTO RAI CHURCH  
LIBERTY BLDG. FORMER JOLLIBEE  
TEL# (670) 233-4670  
WWW.SHOP670.COM  
KEEPIN' YOU HIP WITH THE LATEST LOCAL DESIGNS AND APPARELS

## Convicted ex-cop objects to court's intent to destroy exhibits at trial

Eric John Tudela Mafnas, a former police officer who is currently serving time at a federal prison in Arizona, is opposing a federal court's intent to destroy exhibits that were admitted as evidence at his jury trial.

Mafnas said he is currently appealing his case, which is pending in the U.S. Court of Appeals since Aug. 3, 2009.

The evidence, he said, needs

to be held for an evidentiary hearing and it would be in the court's and his best interest to retain all evidence.

If the court releases the exhibits, he wants the U.S. District Court for the NMI to allow a family member to retrieve all exhibits and documents.

Mafnas said he received a notice from U.S. District Court for the NMI's clerk of

the court, informing him that the exhibits in the case may be withdrawn within 10 days dated Jan. 20, 2010.

He said the court's notice also informed him that if exhibits are not withdrawn within 40 calendar days after date of the notice, the clerk may destroy them.

Mafnas informed the court yesterday that he has retained

former judge Juan T. Lizama to represent him in his appeal.

The federal court in February 2006 sentenced Mafnas to 19 years and seven months in prison for his conviction on charges of stealing cash and illegal drug evidence from the Department of Public Safety. The Ninth Circuit affirmed Mafnas' conviction in July 2007. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## \$1.3M worth of SHEFA checks still pending

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

As of yesterday, about \$1.3 million worth of Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance checks remain pending at the Finance Department, according to SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider, and the continued delay is frustrating more parents and students by the day.

He said the amount covers more than 700 students who were supposed to get the checks

since the fall semester 2010.

Hofschneider disclosed that his office receives mounting calls and emails from concerned parents and recipients each day—all expressing disappointment and frustration with the situation.

He, however, can do nothing but explain that his office has been following up on the financial grants. "We've been doing our job—but our responsibility is limited to just making follow-ups with Finance,"

he added.

Based on SHEFA's record, there are \$540,000 worth of financial grants still pending for incentive scholars for fall semester 2010. This covers about 300 students.

For spring semester 2011, which is about to end soon, over 400 students are still waiting for their checks. Hofschneider said that 437 approved scholars for this semester have yet to get a single cent from SHEFA. This amounts to \$778,900 for both

on- and off-island recipients.

Finance last issued checks to SHEFA scholars early last month for the fall 2010 semester, worth \$454,000.

Each fiscal year, the Legislature appropriates \$3 million in funding for SHEFA scholars. Since the program's inception in 2004, the CNMI government has invested \$17.7 million on these scholars.

SHEFA provides students up to \$5,000 in financial assistance. Recipients are expected to return to the island and work in government or the private sector.

# Fitial nominates Larson as Finance secretary

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. FitiaI nominated yesterday Larrisa Larson to serve as Finance secretary, a post she has been holding in a temporary and acting capacity since Jan. 10.

The governor submitted Larson's nomination to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota)

yesterday, requesting for favorable action.

Larson's nomination requires the advice and consent of the Senate.

"The [lieutenant] governor and I are confident that you are qualified and will be an asset to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Your willingness to serve our people is most appreciated," FitiaI said in his letter to Larson.

If and when confirmed by the Senate, Larson

will fill the position left vacant by Robert Schrack who stepped down on Oct. 31.

When Schrack left the post, Connie Agulto was temporarily assigned to head Finance starting in November. By Jan. 10, then acting governor Eloy S. Inos named Larson to become acting Finance secretary until FitiaI nominated her to the post yesterday pending Senate confirmation.

As an appointee of the governor, Larson is required to file a statement of financial interest with the Office of the Public Auditor and other prerequisite that the Senate requires.

The governor also required Larson to submit a copy of her resume, statement of financial interests, police clearance, drug test receipt, and drug test result to his office, for submission to the Senate.

## Pacific airport executives avow commitment to aviation safety

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Over 100 participants, mostly airport officials in the Pacific region, affirmed their commitment to aviation safety yesterday during the opening of three-day 2011 Pacific Aviation Directors' Workshop organized by the Federal Aviation Administration with the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A total of 133 delegates from the CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, Palau, Marshall Islands, and Federated States of Micronesia are gathered at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan to promote safety and security at all airport sites and facilities.

William C. Withycombe, FAA regional administrator for the Western Pacific region, welcomed the delegates by promising his agency's continued support for the development and progress of aviation in the Pacific and Micronesia.

He said that under the FAA's Destination 2025 strategic plan, the agency aims to increase aviation safety and create a well-trained workforce that is open to innovation and collaboration.

Withycombe also cited changes within the organization to optimize the sharing of services, upgrade capabilities, realign in support of next generation programs, and enhance cross-organizational collabora-

tion—all with the aim of building a "One FAA" culture.

Funding remains the agency's biggest challenge and it expects a drastic cut in its budget for programs and operation this year. A U.S. House of Representatives proposal recommends cutting FAA's overall funding by 7 percent to 2008 level, on top of a 14-percent cut in its airport improvement project funds. The U.S. Senate, meantime, is proposing increasing FAA funding by 16 percent over the 2008 funding level.

### 'Solidifying aviation as a whole'

Gov. Benigno R. FitiaI, who was among the guest speakers yesterday, recognized the FAA's valuable assistance to the progress that has been achieved in terms of safeguarding the travel system.

"This workshop is one that is of utmost importance not simply toward enhancing our preparedness at our airports, but more so toward improving and solidifying aviation safety as a whole. Aviation safety is the primary source of confidence that we must assure today's travelers," he said, adding that through the forum, regional aviation stakeholders have the opportunity to discuss recent updates and issues on aviation infrastructure development, safety, security, and other critical challenges in

their jurisdictions.

"I continue to believe that through collective regional efforts, we stand to reap maximized successes in our endeavors. In the Pacific, we enjoy a host of regional collaborations from the preservation of natural resources to the regional enhancement of our island economies," added FitiaI.

### Other speakers

Other presenters yesterday gave updates on airport projects in their jurisdictions.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero shared the many ongoing projects in the Commonwealth, citing the renovation work on the Saipan

International Airport's main runway, expected to be completed in September this year. Fully funded by FAA, the project costs over \$19 million.

Jackson Ngiraingas, Palau's minister of Public Infrastructure Industries and Commerce, shared his country's developing aviation industry, including the approval

of three new signatory airlines to the destination this year.

Jack Chong-Gum, Republic of Marshall Islands ports authority executive director; Francis Itimai of Federated States of Micronesia; and Charles Obichang, Palau bureau of aviation director were also among the speakers yesterday.



## 2nd Annual Tinian Mayor's Perpetual Cup

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2011**  
**Show Time 10am**  
**Tee Time 11am - Shot Gun Start**

**Entry Fee: \$95.00**  
Inclusive green fee, beverage at course, awards dinner at Coral Ocean Point (Poolside) after the game.

**Prize:**  
Double Peoria Low Net: \$500 Cash and Replica Cup for the Champion  
Championship : \$300 First Place  
A, B, C Flight : \$300 First Place on each Flight categories  
Ladies low gross : \$300 First Place

**Format**  
Double Peoria Low net for the Perpetual Cup and also with their categories are Championship, A, B, C flight and ladies low gross

**Hole in One**  
Hole in One prize  
Worth about  
\$40,000 or more

**Optional Play \$ 20.00**  
Includes longest drive hole # 4 & # 18  
Nearest to pin hole # 3, #7, # 12, #14  
Accurate drive hole # 8

**For inquiries:**  
Please call Tinian Mayor's Office ask for Allen Perez, telephone # 433-1800 or 1802 / Joe Dela Cruz at 285-4818 or Das Krishnan at 483-6405

## NEW FRAMES JUST IN!



**\$77<sup>00</sup>!**  
for complete  
pair of glasses!



**Marianas Eye Institute**

"Where Technology Meets Talent"

Most Insurance Accepted  
Walk-ins welcome

- Free lifetime adjustments
- One-year warranty
- Lightweight lenses
- Progressive 'no-line' Bifocals just \$127.00

**235-9090**  
Beach Road, Garapan

www.MarianasEye.com

# Admin mulls law change to extend deadline to privatize hospital

## »FY 2012 budget hinges on new healthcare corporation

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said the Legislature may have to amend the law that requires the Department of Public Health to be a public healthcare corporation by July 2011.

This is to extend the transition period up to the start of a new fiscal year on Oct. 1 so that startup funding will be made

available, among other things.

Public Law 16-51, signed on Jan. 15, 2010, requires DPH to be a public healthcare corporation by January 2011.

But the Fitial administration and the Legislature availed of the law's provision allowing the transition period to be extended for 180 days.

Inos, however, said even if the board appointees are in place by June, the corporation may not be able to function

without a startup funding that the Fitial administration has allotted for in its proposed fiscal year 2012 budget.

The governor proposes a startup funding of \$5 million for the corporation under the \$102 million budget package.

But the governor said yesterday it will all be up to the Legislature whether to amend the law or not.

Inos said another purpose of amending the DPH health-

care corporation law is to ease the qualifications of the members of the corporation's board of trustees.

Under the law, the corporation shall have a seven-member board of trustees and a chief executive officer.

Inos said the law requires technical and professional expertise among appointed board members, which is difficult to meet given the limited pool of qualified individu-

als in the CNMI.

"We have a very thin pool of people with the qualifications needed," Inos added.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), who was among the senators who met with Fitial and Inos, said the Senate will look at the Fitial administration's proposals to amend the law.

Board member appointees need the advice and consent of the full Senate.

PL 16-51 is supposed to provide autonomy and man-

agement flexibility to DPH. It calls for the establishment of a Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. within 365 days, which was supposed to be by middle of January 2011. It will assume the functions and duties of the Commonwealth Health Center, the Rota Health Center, the Tinian Health Center, the Women's Clinic, the Children's Clinic, the Community Guidance Center, inter-island medical referral services, and other clinics, operations and functions of DPH.

## Radiation screening of travelers is 'non-intrusive'

In an effort to ensure the safety of the residents and visitors of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the CNMI and the federal governments are collectively working to address the public's concerns surrounding the potential impact to the CNMI and the rest of the United States from the Japan nuclear reactor crisis.

The CNMI Customs, Quarantine, and Department of Public Health along with federal agencies are conducting radiation checks for travelers entering the CNMI. The checks are passive in nature, meaning that the

passengers themselves do not notice the monitors and that it is business as usual, walking by the inspectors or agents who are wearing the pager-like devices on them.

There is no current health risk and there is no expectation of any future risk to the CNMI from the radioactive material releases. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the CNMI have installed radiological monitoring equipment and are continuously monitoring the air and rainwater for radiological levels. (*Office of the Governor*)



### AVIATION WORKSHOP

Participants listen to speakers during the opening of the three-day 2011 Pacific Aviation Directors' Workshop at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan yesterday. A total of 133 delegates from the CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, Palau, Marshall Islands, and Federated States of Micronesia are in attendance.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## KEEP

From Page 1

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said yesterday that senators did not commit anything to the governor during their closed-door meeting on Monday.

The Senate killed a Saipan casino legislation that the House passed last year.

"The governor asked us to seriously look into the matter of casinos on Saipan...but no one made any commitment. Casinos have always been on the table but as time progresses, we also need to review the matter," Torres said yesterday.

Ayuyu, for his part, said the governor told them "to be realistic on the casino issue for Saipan and hopes that members of the Legislature can really think about it."

"At this time, nobody says

that they're opposing anything. We have to be realistic," he said.

But he said senators will try to look into revenue enhancement to meet the needs of the people.

"We will take that seriously and I hope others will also consider the request of the governor," he said.

Press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed yesterday that the governor briefly mentioned the Saipan casino issue "and asked senators to thoroughly review casino proposals that may be immensely beneficial to the Commonwealth as a whole."

"A casino on Saipan does not necessarily mean that it will only generate much needed revenues for Saipan only. So the governor asked senators to keep an open mind when entertaining casino proposals," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The press secretary also said Fitial "encouraged them to be mindful that we are weathering challenging times and we must explore all our options to bring opportunities that will enliven and strengthen the livelihood of the people of the CNMI."

Ayuyu is suggesting that the House meet with the Senate, as well as the governor, first before introducing any Saipan casino bill.

"You don't want to introduce a bill that will not pass, right? So what I recommend is before introduction of any casino bill, I think it is appropriate for the House, because it has to originate from the House, to discuss [it]," Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu said senators are also

mindful of the decreased revenue projected for fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

He said the Senate will "work closely" with the House to pass the 2012 budget that the governor transmitted on April 1.

The freshman lawmaker also said the allotment cut as a result of the revised projected revenue for fiscal year 2011 gives agencies a harder task of trimming down expenses.

Torres said there are other steps that could be taken to boost revenue, including the goal of a bill he will introduce during today's Senate session.

He said his bill will require a double lock on each poker

machine; the added lock to be opened only by the Department of Commerce at the same time that the poker parlor opens the same machine for "greater accountability."

The House Ways and Means Committee has drafted a new bill allowing the operation of up to three casinos on Saipan, even as a proposal to introduce a legislative initiative is gaining traction among lawmakers.

The committee has not acted yet on Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) casino bill, which he introduced two months after the Senate killed Rep. Froilan Tenorio's (Cov-Saipan) casino legislation.

Some lawmakers want to let

Saipan voters decide whether they would allow legalizing casino gambling on island.

Saipan voters twice rejected a casino initiative years back. Rota and Tinian voters have already approved casino operations on their islands.

Meanwhile, Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said the reduced budget is reason enough for the government "to live within its means."

He said the 16-hour work cut per payroll is still doable in 2012.

Dela Cruz lauded the Fitial administration for looking at the desk audit recommendations on the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

## INVESTOR

From Page 1

The meeting was at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill on Monday afternoon, after the governor met with senators on the budget.

"These are investors interested in buying...Plumeria Resort. ...We didn't discuss how much. They just asked me to support," the governor said in an interview yesterday at the 2011 Pacific Aviation Directors Workshop at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

Plumeria Resort closed in October 2008, dragging down the number of rooms available in the CNMI.

Bridge Capital LLC also offered to buy Plumeria Resort in 2008 but backed out.

Fitial also said "Palms Resort is going to be bought," and referred reporters to Lifofoi for more details.

"Talk to Lifofoi because Lifofoi is heavily involved in the negotiation now. But I brought the investors," the governor added.

Lifofoi, who was also at the workshop yesterday as chairman of the Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors, confirmed there have been "a lot of investors" interested in buying Palms Resort, one of which is a "big firm in Korea."

UMDA owns the 14-story, 313-room hotel formerly called Hotel Nikko.

He said David Wickline, chairman and chief executive officer of Palms Resort Saipan, was set to travel on April 4 from

San Francisco to Korea "to meet and see what kind of offer" the investor has.

Lifofoi said it's premature to say whether this firm will be able to buy the hotel.

He said UMDA bought the hotel for \$3 million and invested on it in renovations, and may sell it for over \$10 million or \$15 million.

But Lifofoi said UMDA is also considering not selling the hotel but entering into a joint venture with investors.

"If we could get the entire fund that we need, we'd rather go on our own. If we need additional fund, maybe we need partners for a joint venture," he said.

In August 2010, Palms Resort held a news briefing to announce the hotel's October 2010 closure for a multi-mil-

lion renovation.

### Helping Japan

Lifofoi said Fitial, HIS travel agency, and the Japan consul general are also talking to UMDA "about the possibility of using the hotel for the victims in Japan of the tsunami."

He said UMDA "agreed," considering that Japan has been the CNMI's major tourism market.

But he said there's no telling whether turning the hotel into a temporary shelter will take three or six months or a year.

"We're just waiting now for them for the next move. But they have to think about it in terms of utility. Who's going to pay the utility, groundwater? Now they want three meals a day. Of course, they have to bring back the cooks, the waitresses," he added.

## 2011

From Page 1

Guam, Tropical Depression 2W is packing maximum sustained winds of 35 miles per hour and is moving northeast at 22 mph.

The Service predicted that Tropical Depression 2W's center would pass between Agrihan and Pagan today, Wednesday, at 8am, as a 45mph tropical storm.

As of 1pm yesterday, the center of Tropical Depression 2W was located near latitude 15.9 degrees north and longitude 139.9 degrees east.

EMO and NWS said this is

# FAA sees possible \$4 billion budget cut

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

An anticipated drastic cut in the annual budget of the Federal Aviation Administration will result in the reduction of airport programs it could fund, including those for the Pacific region and territories, according to a ranking agency official yesterday.

William C. Withycombe, the FAA Western-Pacific Region administrator, said that about \$4 billion may be slashed from the agency's budget if the proposed measure now pending in Congress is enacted into law.

"Obviously, the biggest concern that we have is the budget for the programs. As you know

the federal government is looking at every budget of all agencies and ours is not an exception and the airport improvement program [AIP] is one of the areas we want to continue to maintain and keep it active on the islands," he said during a break yesterday at the three-day Pacific aviation directors' workshop at the Fiesta Resort & Spa.

He said the FAA needs to carefully assess the priority projects that need the most attention and funding assistance. Projects for safety always get the highest FAA priority, he added.

"We're dealing now with funding levels in 2010 and there are talks that there would be \$4 billion cut from FAA programs for

the incoming fiscal year. It has not been finalized...so we're waiting to see what the final figures are," said Withycombe.

"Budget drives everything. So we would obviously be looking at AIP funding and some key modernization programs that FAA maintains [if the cut is approved]," he added.

Due to the anticipated budget cut, Withycombe said the federal agency is now enforcing restrictions on both travel and hiring.

"It's now all about programs and what are the priorities. FAA is looking at every dollar spending on such thing as travel and personnel. We are obviously not able to hire as many people as we would like to because of this re-

striction," he said.

He stressed, however, that it is the FAA's goal to maintain the integrity and safety of the airports system.

Withycombe said all projects that are now being monitored in the Pacific region and other states were developed as planned and funded through previous and current fiscal year budgets and that FAA fully supports completing them all.

He said that FAA's next generation programs—including the modernization of air traffic control systems—might also suffer due to the budget cut.

These next generation projects, he said, will increase capacity and reduce delays, emissions, fuel consumption, and noise.

The programs are "very expensive," he admits, but impor-

a commission review of rates, among other things.

MCV Broadband system manager Mark E. Birmingham separately said yesterday that he's aware of the Friday meeting with the committee.

"We look forward to the meeting and see what we can do to make it better," he said.

Birmingham also said MCV makes available Channel 60, which currently shows a lineup of channels.

"We are not responsible for the content...It's always there when they need it," he added.

Dela Cruz said the meeting will be on Friday at 10am in the House of Representatives chamber.

## PUTC panel to meet with MCV, others to take up 12-hour local programming

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications will hold a meeting with MCV, the Northern Marianas College, and other entities on Friday to discuss a 2006 law requiring cable television to provide free local programming.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), chairman of the delegation's PUTC Committee, said yesterday that Public Law 15-35 requires a cable TV to operate and make available one television channel dedicated to local programming "for at least

Laura Ogumoro is new DYS director

Laura T. Ogumoro is now the new director of the Division of Youth Services under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Ogumoro to her post in a memorandum addressed to all departments and activity heads

12 hours a day," free of charge to cable TV customers.

"This is to discuss the airing of public access channels and these are cultural, educational...it's all under PL 15-35 where it requires any cable company to give 12 hours of free access or airtime to programs produced for cultural, educational and governmental [service] and so far we haven't seen those in MCV," Dela Cruz told reporters yesterday.

When asked whether MCV will have to be penalized for not following the law, Dela Cruz thinks "there's never really been a formal coordination."

Dela Cruz said he initiated a meeting with NMC film and on April 4.

"Please extend your full cooperation and assistance to Ms. Ogumoro," Fitial said.

Ogumoro was the former DYS Child Protection Unit supervisor. She also served as acting DYS director. (Clarissa V. David)

production personnel, who he said have lots of archived programs that may be aired on the free channel.

"People watching MCV, they need those programs. A lot of them don't come to summits, or conferences, so basically we're trying to put them on air so people can watch," he added.

The law says any entity who fails to abide by this requirement for more than 60 consecutive days shall be barred permanently from obtaining exemption from

## TAX ASSISTANCE SERVICES (ALL KINDS OF TAXES)

### LP ACCOUNTING

Rm. 608, 6th Floor Marianas Business Plaza  
(formerly Nauro Building)

Business Hours: 8:00am - 7:00pm (Mon. - Fri.)  
8:00am - 6:00pm (Saturday)

**Tel: 234-3800, 285-3900**

contact Loida or one of our friendly staffs

tant enough to require a reliable source of income to maintain.

### \$59M worth of projects

The Commonwealth Ports Authority earlier said it is seeking some \$59 million from FAA for its airport improvement projects.

Withycombe declined to confirm the status of these projects but pointed out that FAA has to work on its priorities at this time. "We get requests for funding... but we can't fulfill all of them. So we have to look at those and prioritize which one we can support. We need to know what are the most important projects [for CPA]," he said.


He expressed satisfaction, though, with CPA's performance and compliance with federal standards and requirements. "We obviously focus on performance all the time... that's one important thing to FAA. We make sure that what

we invest in is built the way we feel is important to the entire safety of this island," he said, describing FAA funds spent on CNMI airports as "all worth the investments."

He encouraged CPA personnel to take pride on what they have accomplished for the CNMI. "The airport infrastructure drives this island and one of the economic bases for this entire community in Pacific area. They should take pride on what they're doing because it is a great accomplishment."

He added: The "safety record of CPA is perfect and we want to keep it."

CPA got a total of \$15.5 million from FAA's airport improvement program in fiscal year 2010. Of the amount, \$11.654 million went to the Saipan airport, \$3.791 million went to the Rota airport, and \$71,690 went to the Tinian airport.




## Having trouble reading the blackboard?

*It's a possibility that your child may be having difficulty reading the blackboard at school and this could be affecting their schoolwork.*

Some signs that indicate a child may have a vision problem include:

- Frequent eye rubbing
- Short attention span
- Avoiding reading/other close activities
- Frequent headaches
- Holding reading materials close to the face
- And many more...



# HARDT

## EYE CLINIC

*If you have a concern, we're here to help—give us a call or come see us!* **235-2030**

**Yes! — all major insurance plans accepted.**

## SHIPPING SCHEDULE



**MARIANA**  
EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SEMAKAU	014E	3/26 Sat	3/24 Thu	3/24 Thu	3/22 Tue	3/19 Sat	4/1 Fri	3/28 Mon	3/27 Sun	3/20 Sun	3/20 Sun	3/28 Mon	4/1 Fri	4/3 Sun	4/5 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	053E	4/2 Sat	3/31 Thu	3/31 Thu	3/29 Tue	3/26 Sat	4/8 Fri	4/4 Mon	4/3 Sun	3/27 Sun	3/27 Sun	4/4 Mon	4/8 Fri	4/10 Sun	4/12 Tue
MELL SARACA	044E	4/9 Sat	4/7 Thu	4/7 Thu	4/5 Tue	4/2 Sat	4/15 Fri	4/11 Mon	4/10 Sun	4/3 Sun	4/3 Sun	4/11 Mon	4/15 Fri	4/17 Sun	4/19 Tue
MELL SEMAKAU	015E	4/16 Sat	4/14 Thu	4/14 Thu	4/12 Tue	4/9 Sat	4/22 Fri	4/18 Mon	4/17 Sun	4/10 Sun	4/10 Sun	4/18 Mon	4/22 Fri	4/24 Sun	4/26 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	054E	4/23 Sat	4/21 Thu	4/21 Thu	4/19 Tue	4/16 Sat	4/29 Fri	4/25 Mon	4/24 Sun	4/17 Sun	4/17 Sun	4/25 Mon	4/29 Fri	5/1 Sun	5/3 Tue
MELL SARACA	045E	4/30 Sat	4/28 Thu	4/28 Thu	4/26 Tue	4/23 Sat	5/6 Fri	5/2 Mon	5/1 Sun	4/24 Sun	4/24 Sun	5/2 Mon	5/6 Fri	5/8 Sun	5/10 Tue
Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA      ETD Guam		ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SEMAKAU	014E	4/9 Sat	4/10 Sun	4/10 Sun	4/12 Tue	4/13 Wed	4/15 Fri	4/17 Sun	SKIP	4/22 Fri	4/23 Sat	4/28 Thu	5/17 Tue	5/1 Sun	4/27 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	053E	4/16 Sat	4/17 Sun	4/17 Sun	SKIP	4/20 Wed	4/22 Fri	4/24 Sun	SKIP	4/29 Fri	4/30 Sat	5/5 Thu	5/24 Tue	5/8 Sun	5/4 Wed
MELL SARACA	044E	4/23 Sat	4/24 Sun	4/24 Sun	4/26 Tue	4/27 Wed	4/29 Fri	5/1 Sun	SKIP	5/6 Fri	5/7 Sat	5/12 Thu	5/31 Tue	5/15 Sun	5/11 Wed
MELL SEMAKAU	015E	4/30 Sat	5/1 Sun	5/1 Sun	SKIP	5/4 Wed	5/6 Fri	5/8 Sun	SKIP	5/13 Fri	5/14 Sat	5/19 Thu	6/7 Tue	5/22 Sun	5/18 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	054E	5/7 Sat	5/8 Sun	5/8 Sun	5/10 Tue	5/11 Wed	5/13 Fri	5/15 Sun	SKIP	5/20 Fri	5/21 Sat	5/26 Thu	6/14 Tue	5/29 Sun	5/25 Wed
MELL SARACA	045E	5/14 Sat	5/15 Sun	5/15 Sun	SKIP	5/18 Wed	5/20 Fri	5/22 Sun	SKIP	5/27 Fri	5/28 Sat	6/2 Thu	6/21 Tue	6/5 Sun	6/1 Wed

**Weekly service. More frequent. More dependable.**

Website: [www.mariana-express.com](http://www.mariana-express.com)

### Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

CTSI LOGISTICS,  
CTSI Building, Lower Base,  
P.O. Box 501937,  
Saipan MP 96950  
Website: [www.ctsi-logistics.com](http://www.ctsi-logistics.com)

**Edgar T. Garcia**  
Inbound/Outbound  
Tel. No. (670) 322-1690 ext. 422

**Leslie R. Alcantara**  
Sales and Marketing  
Tel. No. (670) 322-1690 ext. 402



# Precast system speeds up construction of Sandy Beach Homes

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Despite tight deadlines, the Sandy Beach Homes Affordable Housing Project will be completed as scheduled with the use of precast system.

Senior construction manager Jack Travers of Black Micro Corp., building contractor for the multi-million housing project, said the use of precast system speeds up the project's completion.

Sandy Beach Homes Affordable Housing Project, which aims to build affordable housing units near Laly 4 Beach, will consist of 60 three-bedroom, two-bathroom units measuring 1,400 square feet each on six-floor buildings, with above ground level parking.

It is owned by Sandy Beach Homes LLC, a new business entity established in June through the collaboration of Triple J Saipan Inc. and Ironwood Housing Partners Saipan LLC.

"We recognized the timeline completion was going to require us some little bit of ingenuity. What we did is we proposed to use a precast system with prestressed planks. This helps the schedule tremendously," Travers said during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting yesterday.

Travers said one advantage of using prestressed planks is that it helps expedite the schedule of a project.

"The advantage of using the precast is that many of the components that go into the composite structure of the building can be made off-site while you are building onsite," he said.

Another advantage of prestressed planks, Travers said, is that it eliminates the scaffolding and re-shoring associated with conventional construction.

"While we're still building structure on the upper levels, we'll be finishing with the lower levels. That's essentially how we propose to do the job and how we will mitigate the schedule," he explained.

Travers noted, however, that there are important components in building a precast bed, which includes a suitable location.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Senior construction manager Jack Travers of Black Micro Corp. discusses the use of precast system for the Sandy Beach Homes Affordable Housing Project as Rotary president Glen Perez looks on during yesterday's meeting at Hyatt's Giovanni's restaurant.

"It has to be large enough to accommodate, in this case, a 200 x 40 area with suitable surrounding area for very large craneage and storage of the precast. ... A very large area is required," said the construction manager.

Travers said that since Black Micro Corp. has a close collaboration with Hawaiian Rock Products on Saipan, they agreed to utilize the latter's batch plant quarry area to set up a precast and the equipment needed to work on the precast bed.

He said Hawaiian Rock's quarry area is suitable because it's right next to the batch plant, which allows for very little time in delivering concrete.

According to Travers, precasting was introduced to the Pacific region in 1955 and is a specialty of Black Construction in Guam, which is a sister company of Black Micro Corp.

"While it's not a very new technology, it's new to the island," he added.

Travers said the local construction industry can benefit from the precast bed once they're done with Sandy Beach Homes.

"It will be there and it will be maintained for the future use of the construction industry as a whole to create precast products. ... It will be a benefit to the community," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the beds can last for a long time as long as they're maintained and used properly.

According to Travers, they are now approaching 30 percent complete with the housing project. "We intend to finish on time," he said.

The housing project will include features such as solar hot water heating, rain water catchment system, two building elevators, trash chutes, and decorative bohemian typhoon shutters.

# 1 of 2 suspects in foiled poker heist gets 10 years

One of two men who attempted to rob a poker arcade in San Vicente in August last year has entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Terrence A. Fitial, 28, pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon as part of a plea bargain last week. The government dropped the remaining charges.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Fitial to 15 years in prison, all suspended except for 10 years, with credit for the time he has already served in jail since his arrest on the same day when the attempted robbery occurred.

After completing his prison term, Fitial will be placed on probation. He will be required to perform 100 hours of community work service, pay restitution to the victim in an amount to be determined later, a \$100 fine, a \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Fitial and Aliston H. Santos with assault with a dangerous weapon, attempted robbery, and conspiracy to commit robbery.

Fitial and Santos had assaulted Edward Santos, a security guard of S.V. Poker, with a knife during a failed robbery attempt in the early morning hours of Aug. 30, 2010. The two readily admitted to the crime after their arrest.

Detective Jackson W. Jack stated in his report that Fitial and Santos told police that they had been drinking at Fitial's grandmother's house in San Vicente when they decided to rob S.V. Poker.

The two failed to get any money, with Santos fending them off. The guard sustained deep cuts on the left thumb and left forearm, but managed to disarm Fitial during the struggle.

Responding patrol officers arrested Fitial in the vicinity of the S.V. Poker, then later apprehended Aliston Santos in San Vicente.

Santos is expected to appear at a change of plea hearing today, Wednesday. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



## Saipan International School

**is currently accepting student applications for school year 2011-2012**

### Saipan International School offers:

- Full day programs for all grade levels
- Outstanding reading and math programs for 4 and 5 year old children
- Strong academic programs in English, Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses for high school students
- Small class size
- Individualized reading programs for all students
- Special classes in Music, Art, Mandarin, and Physical Education
- Highly qualified and experienced teachers

SIS offers high quality education for children from ages 4 through high school.

**All grades fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)**

**Website: [www.sissaipan.com](http://www.sissaipan.com) E-mail: [dalejsis@yahoo.com](mailto:dalejsis@yahoo.com)  
Telephone 288 9660**



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works**  
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai  
Saipan, MP 96950



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
DPW11-RFP-007**

### PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING DESIGN OF TEXAS ROAD, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals for the Preliminary Engineering Design of Texas Road on Saipan, commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, Article 7, "Local Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with § 70-30.3-305 of the Procurement Regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certification of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Florence C. Sablan, Executive Director, at (670) 664-4807/4809 or Fax (670) 664-4813.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **April 06, 2011** at the DPW, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan. A Non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill Office. A Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Gualo Rai Office at 10:00 A.M. on **April 25, 2011**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho**, Acting Director, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **April 28, 2011**.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (resumes and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor or another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications of the Principal and assigned staff-30%
2. Experience of the Firm(s) on similar type projects-30%
3. Project Approach-20%
4. Schedule of Completion-20%

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW11-RFP-007". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, **May 05, 2011**. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, **May 05, 2011** and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, **May 05, 2011** and must be received no later than **May 16, 2011** (CNMI Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the responsible proposers who submit proposals determined to be most reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purposes of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. A fee shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architectural and Engineering firms at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the Government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then another firm may be selected in the order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed. Award will be made to the responsible proposer whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the CNMI Government taking into consideration price and the evaluation criteria set out in this RFP. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

The successful proposer will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All response to this RFP shall take in to account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement & Supply

SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

Mariners warned to exercise caution

GUAM—The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam is warning boaters and beach goers to exercise caution in all waters across Micronesia through Wednesday. The National Weather Service has issued several high surf warnings and small craft advisories for north and east facing reefs along Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

A Small Craft Advisory for Hazardous Seas is in effect for all the islands through Wednesday. Winds are expected to remain in excess of 22 knots, creating waves along affected reefs higher than normal, making it exceptionally dangerous for small vessels and swimmers. The National Weather Service recommends mariners operating small vessels should avoid navigating in these conditions.

Mariners should check current and forecasted weather conditions prior to getting underway, and remain aware of changing conditions once on the water. Coast Guard Sector Guam advises mariners: if in doubt, don't go out!

Boaters are strongly encouraged to have a VHF marine radio on board to monitor weather conditions, communicate with other mariners and call for help in the event of an emergency. The Coast Guard reminds all mariners that channel 16 is the emergency channel and is monitored around-the-clock.

In addition, marinas and boaters are reminded to check that boats in port are properly secured, bilge pumps are functional, and all loose items are removed from decks. Report any boats adrift, pollution or other maritime emergencies to the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center at 671-564-USCG.

Here are some tips for those who choose to go out on the water during the potentially heavy weather:

- Leave a float plan with a responsible individual who knows your intentions, location and who they should call if you do not return as scheduled.
- Wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket and set the example for your passengers or paddling partners.
- Be prepared for the shock of sudden immersion and the disabling effects of cold water. Plan for the worst: dress as though you are going to get wet and be cold.
- Maintain awareness on the water—be aware of activity around your vessel including changing weather, and always know your location.
- Don't boat alone—boating alone is not recommended. Recreational paddlers canoeists and kayakers often travel with a single craft and one partner, or even solo, but it is recommended you canoe, kayak, or boat with at least three people or two craft.
- Kayakers and paddlers are highly encouraged to use the Paddle Smart Identification Sticker. In situations where a craft is found without its paddler, this sticker can allow the Coast Guard to quickly identify who to contact and determine whether they have an emergency rescue situation on their hands.
- Know your limitations—be honest with yourself and your companions. Your life and the lives of those in your party may depend on how everyone understands each other's capabilities.
- For safety equipment requirements based on the size and type of your vessel, visit: [www.uscgboating.org/](http://www.uscgboating.org/)
- For local National Weather Service advisories, visit: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/\(USCG\)](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/(USCG))

ICE files removal case vs ex-convict

The Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement has filed a removal case against an ex-convict that the CNMI government had also sought for deportation in 2008.

Lester Serrilo's removal case hearing will be today, Wednesday, at 9am, before the Saipan U.S. Immigration Court.

Attorney Stephen C. Woodruff is counsel for Serrilo.

Serrilo, a Palauan, resides in the CNMI pursuant to the Compact of Free Association with the U.S.

Nineteen other removal cases are set for hearing today before U.S. Immigration Judge from Hawaii Dayna Beamer. Except for Serrilo, all respondents are Chinese nationals.

In October 2008, the CNMI's then Division of Immigration Division filed a deportation case in Superior Court against Serrilo for having been convicted of two misdemeanor and two felonies—a total of four criminal offenses. It was no clear why he was not deported.

The federalization law took effect on Nov. 28, 2009.

In 2008, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Serrilo to five years in prison for seriously injuring a man, who incurred a permanent scar on his face.

Wiseman then stated that, it is his opinion that the numerous encounters with the law, and total and contemptuous disregard of probation conditions do not render Serrilo a good candidate for rehabilitation; rather he is "a threat to the community." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Walk Against Cancer this Saturday

The 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer's Team Aschoscho will be holding a "Walk Against Cancer" event this Saturday, April 9, beginning at 7am. The starting point will be at the Oleai Beach pavilion on Beach Road.

Team Aschoscho will be hosting this event to support their fundraising efforts in the battle against cancer.

"On behalf of Team Aschoscho and the 2011 MMAC committee, we are inviting the entire community to come out and join this walk in support of the fight against cancer. Participants will walk north until Quartermaster Road and return back to the Oleai pavilion. Please join Team Aschoscho for a fun morning walk. Bring all your friends and family," said 2011 MMAC public relations committee chair Christopher A. Concepcion.

Team Aschoscho will also be hosting a softball tournament from April 30 to May 1. The co-ed event will take place at the Capital Hill ball field. A maximum of 12 teams will be allowed to participate. Registration fee is \$150.

For more information on how to join this softball tournament, contact Nadia Saralu by phone at 483-4829 or via email at [nsaralu\\_11@yahoo.com](mailto:nsaralu_11@yahoo.com).

Concepcion said there will be a meeting on Tuesday, April 26, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium pavilion in Susupe.

"If you are interested in participating in this cancer fighting softball tournament, please come to this important meeting," he said.

The 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held on May 13-14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

The MMAC is the signature fundraising event of the Commonwealth Cancer Association—a volunteer driven non-profit organization that ensures all funds raised are spent locally on cancer awareness programs, cancer patient assistance, and other cancer-related services. (*MMAC*)

Red flag up at the Unai Dangkulo Beach

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the Unai Dangkulo Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from this site had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 12 locations on Saipan. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (*DEQ*)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

April 6, 2011

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Governor  
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 664-2000 or (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after April 22, 2011, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Marpo Heights Basketball Court	The purpose of the project is to construct an outdoor basketball court within the Marpo Heights Homestead subdivision. The outdoor basketball court is an open court with court perimeter fence, concrete bleachers, and an ADA parking stall with an accessible route to and from the facility.	Marpo Heights Subdivision, Tinian MP 96952	\$150,000.00
Carolinas Heights Basketball Court	The purpose of the project is to construct an outdoor basketball court within the Carolinas Heights Homestead subdivision. The outdoor basketball court is an open court with court perimeter fence, concrete bleachers, and an ADA parking stall with an accessible route to and from the facility.	Carolinas Heights Subdivision, Tinian, MP 96952	\$150,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The Environmental Assessment for the Tinian Amphitheater was completed on 09/10/07.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by April 21, 2011, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Benigno R. Fitial consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 500 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, Hawaii Suite 3A 96813-4918. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/S/ BENIGNO R. FITIAL  
Governor

# Two illegal fishing vessels seized within Palau EEZ

**APRA HARBOR, Guam**—Crewmembers aboard the Coast Guard cutter *Sequoia* returned home to Apra Harbor on March 3, 2011, after a two month-long patrol.

The crew, having traveled more than 5,000 nautical miles throughout remote areas within the Pacific Ocean, conducted law enforcement patrols and performed aids to navigation maintenance in the Federated States of Micronesia and Palau.

Exercising a bilateral agreement between the U.S. and the Republic of Palau, the crew brought aboard a shiprider from the Palau Maritime Police. The bilateral agreement is a coopera-

tive effort between the U.S. and Palau to protect living marine resources in Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone.

While on their patrol, crewmembers aboard the *Sequoia* detected two vessels well within Palau's EEZ. Under the authority of the Palauan officer, and with the officer's help, a boarding team from the *Sequoia* was deployed to inspect both vessels individually.

The first boarding was conducted on a small fishing vessel that was tied off to a fish aggregating device, a large buoy that is left to drift for several months to attract fish, which is strictly prohibited in Palauan waters.

The Philippine-flagged vessel had no permit to fish in Palauan waters. The Palauan officer ordered the vessel to exit the EEZ and return to the Philippines.

The second boarded vessel, though larger, didn't have any fishing permits and was rigged to deploy FADs as well. After conferring with Palauan Maritime Police officials, the Palauan shiprider seized the vessel. Boarding officers discovered that the smaller vessel, previously boarded, was affiliated with the second vessel. Both vessels were then seized.

While escorting both vessels to Koror, Palau, one vessel suffered an engine casualty.

Engineers aboard the *Sequoia* provided assistance and made repairs. Days later, the vessel ran out of fuel, to which *Sequoia*'s crew conducted a complicated at-sea refueling evolution.

Upon arrival after five days, custody of both vessels was transferred to the Palau Maritime Police.

"It felt great to assist Palau and seize two vessels that were illegally fishing in their waters. Long patrols feel much shorter when you know that we are actively preventing unlicensed fishing," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Bradley Murray, a Boatswain's Mate aboard the *Sequoia*. (USCG)

## JKPL applies for Library Outreach Services grant

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the CNMI's state library, recently applied for the Library Outreach Services 2011 Competitive Grant for the Pacific. It plans to use the funds for the library's Outreach Bookmobile Service.

The JKPL Library Outreach Bookmobile Service provides library services offsite to underserved children and youth in outlying villages.

Executive director John Oliver DLR Gonzales said that the grant application is part of the library's continuing effort "to diversify their portfolio and leverage alternative sources of funding to augment diminishing local resources toward branding and marketing our library services and products."

"JKPL through the CNMI Library Council timely submitted [the grant application] online and hardcopy on Friday, April 1, 2011," Gonzales told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Gonzales, the competitive grant is funded by the Institute of Museum & Library Services through the re-



Public library executive director John Oliver DLR Gonzales, center, is flanked by Institute of Museum & Library Services associate deputy director for State programs Laurie C. Brooks and deputy director Mary L. Chute during the 2011 Grants to States Library Conference in Baltimore last month.

cently enacted Library Services and Technology Act Reauthorization Act of 2010.

Gonzales said the grant application is competitively offered to libraries in Guam, American Samoa, Northern Marianas, Freely Associated States of Micronesia, Republic of Belau, and Republic of Marshall Islands.

He said the library's partners

for the grant include the Public School System, CNMI Head Start Program, Division of Youth Services, and Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

These partner agencies gave their organizational profiles and support letters that were attached to the grant application, said Gonzales.

According to Gonzales, the public library was successfully

awarded \$41,982 in fiscal year 2010 and \$63,473 in 2011.

Gonzales said the grant pays for part-time Library Outreach staff that operate the Bookmobile from Tuesdays to Saturdays, manage general circulation, provide homework assistance, and register and capture new library patrons through new library card applications outside the library.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 6, 2000

### Chamber campaigns vs use of detergents with phosphates

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has started its campaign against the use of detergents containing phosphates to save the island's environment, specifically the Saipan Lagoon. Chamber president Lynn Knight said the organization will discuss with wholesalers and retailers on the island the importance of phasing out these type of detergents that will harm the environment. "We do not really need a legislation to tell us not to buy it. If it is bad for our environment, then we should start phasing it out," she said. The growth of algae on corals is one proof that the lagoon has been affected by this harmful chemical.

### OPA orders new bidding for security services in 3 tour sites

The Public Auditor has chided the a finance department official for violating an existing law on procurement and supply by awarding a government contract to a private company despite its failure to meet essential requirements. Public Auditor Leo LaMotte also ordered rebidding of the contract for the required security services in three tourist sites managed by the Marianas Visitors Authority. The audit stemmed from a protest filed by All Around Security, Inc. alleging that the Procurement and Supply Director violated the CNMI Procurement Regulations when The Wackenhut Corporation was allowed to submit some documents after the opening of the bid.

April 6, 2001

### Stronger anti-child abuse measure heads to Teno

The Senate yesterday passed a proposed measure that improves the protection of CNMI children against abuse and neglect, in line with the celebration of April as the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Senate Bill 12-03, passed on second and final reading by the upper house, now heads to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for approval. SB 23-03 seeks to impose harsher penalties against violators of child rights, as part of overall government efforts to curb the increasing number of child abuse and neglect in the Northern Marianas.

### HJHS' accreditation with WASC affirmed

Hopwood Junior High School administration announced that the Western Association of Schools and Colleges' has reaffirmed the accreditation of HJHS with the prestigious United States-based institution. Both Dr. Carolyn Kelso and Patricia Bennett gave the Hopwood good remarks in its efforts to address nine key issues raised by a WASC team during its 1999 visit. In addition, the school received six commendations reflecting the positive changes and improvements made during the school year. At the same time, HJHS said it will release the third quarter report cards on April 11 from 4pm to 7pm. School administration said classes will be dismissed early that day, as it advised parents and guardians that students should already be home shortly after 12:35pm.

April 6, 2003

### Legislator seeks solution to Puerto Rico sewage stench

Rep. William S. Torres has requested Gov. Juan N. Babauta to include Puerto Rico villagers in any future decisions that would address the fate of the sewage stink that Puerto Rico residents have been enduring for the past years. In a letter to the chief executive, Torres recommended that the administration develop plans to relocate the sewage plant out of the Puerto Rico village. "We are sure there may be other options that may be just as effective as the one at hand. Whatever option is or will soon be taken must always involve the villages in and around the contaminated area," said the Saipan congressman who heads the House Committee on United States and Foreign Affairs.

### Bill seeks to regulate 'shobais'

Rep. Arnold I. Palacios introduced Thursday legislation that intends to regulate "shobais" or freelance commercial activities that have emerged as a nuisance to tourists. The bill, dubbed the Beachside Revitalization Act of 2003, is in response to concerns that the shobai phenomenon has been steadily increasing in number, particularly on Saipan beachfronts. The Marianas Visitors Authority, in a recent meeting with House members, confirmed that shobai activities have existed for many years, adding that there is an inverse proportion to the CNMI tourist arrival figures versus the number of beachside concessionaires that have surfaced.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### MHS Class of 2002 alumni meeting

The Class of 2002 of Marianas High School will be having a meeting on April 15, 2011, at the Bolis residence, Navy Hill, Saipan. The meeting will be from 6:30pm to 9pm. For more information, call or text Roxanne Pangelinan at 483-5292 or Beau Tomokane at 483-0805. You can also email Beau, tomokane\_beau@yahoo.com and RSVP on Facebook Group Page if possible. (PR)

### MRCDC sets board meeting on Thursday

Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council will hold an executive board meeting/teleconference on Guam, Saipan, and Tinian on Thursday afternoon, April 7, 2011, from 5pm to 6pm. The public is invited. For island-specific location information or special accommodation

for disability call (671) 472-7447. (PR)

### OES PTSA meeting set

The PTSA of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of OES that there will be a PTSA meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 6pm in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. (PR)

### Library Friends meeting, book sale

The Library Friends will hold a book and parking lot sale on April 16, Saturday, from 7:30am to 2:30 pm. There will be eight available tent spaces for food vendors and those who want to sell their items during the event. Rental fee is \$45 per tent. For reservations, contact the library front desk at 235-7322. Location of space will be on a first reserved, first choice basis. (PR)

### MLSC on Rota, Tinian this month

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. staff will be on Rota and Tinian this month.

**ROTA:** Monday, April 11; and Thursday, April 28

**TINIAN:** Wednesday, April 6; Friday, April 15; and Wednesday, April 27

Anyone wishing to make an appointment in advance may telephone the Marianas Office on Saipan at (670) 234-6243. (PR)

### UOG College Night today

The University of Guam will host CollegeNight for high school seniors and their families today, April 6 at 6pm in the Student Center. Attendees will learn about steps to admission, placement test dates, academic programs, and financial aid. Students will also be able to submit their application and pay the \$49 application fee during the activity. (PR)

### Autism on John Gonzales LIVE tonight

John Gonzales LIVE tonight will feature Autism Awareness and NMPASI's advocacy role, with guests Larissa C. Larson and Vince Merfalen of the CNMI Autism Commission, as well as NMPASI project specialist Tom Thornburgh.

Viewers can participate by calling 287-4230, texting 285-META (6382), or emailing johngonzales@pticom.com.

John Gonzales LIVE airs Wednesday and rebroadcasts on Sunday and Monday, all from 7pm to 8pm on KSPN Channel 2. John Gonzales LIVE also rebroadcasts worldwide on Betelnut Radio (www.betelnutradio.com) on April 6, 2011, at 6pm Pacific Standard Time and 9pm Eastern Standard Time (Thursday, April 7, 2011, at 11am Chamorro Standard Time in the CNMI and Guam). (PR)

# Awareness walk kicks off monthlong campaign vs sexual violence

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Walk Against Sexual Violence held Friday kicked off the activities that the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence has lined up to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Participants wearing black shirts with assertive messages like "speak out against sexual violence," "give respect," or "get consent" walked from Oleai Pavilion to the old Japanese tank last Friday. The walk kicked off the activities organized by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence in celebration of the awareness month.



CLARISSA V. DAVID  
Students hold the Sexual Assault Awareness Month banner during the Walk Against Sexual Violence from Oleai Pavilion to the old Japanese tank last Friday. The walk kicked off the activities organized by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence in celebration of the awareness month.

vilion all the way to the old Japanese tank across Quartermaster Road and back.

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham, who took part in the awareness walk, said that one out of two cases or 55 percent of the new cases they handled in 2011 involves domestic violence.

"This means this is the biggest problem we have in the Commonwealth and it's our highest priority in terms of prosecution," he told participants.

you," he added.

Coalition executive director Maisie B. Tenorio said the figures are "pretty scary" since domestic violence and sexual assault are generally unreported crimes.

Tenorio noted that between 60 to 80 percent of cases remain unreported, with Asians and Pacific Islanders the least likely to report such cases.

"It feels like a daunting thing to try and fight against but every day is a new day. If we can give hope and healing to one person, we feel that we've done our job for the day," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tenorio said activities such as the awareness walk help domestic violence and sexual assault victims realize that there are people who believe and support them. "There are people that are here to help," she added.

She said the coalition will set up a booth at the Garapan Street Market the whole month of April to educate the community about the issue.

The monthlong celebration will culminate with the Safe, Aware, Free, Empower or S.A.F.E. Jamboree, to be held at the Koblerville Youth Learning Center and basketball court on April 30 from 2pm to 9pm.

For information, call the coalition at 234-3878.

## Caronel Watch Center donates \$2K to NMC Foundation

Caronel Watch Center recently presented a donation of \$2,000 to the Northern Marianas College Foundation. The donation was made in support of the foundation's upcoming golf tournament set for April 30, 2011, at Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The 9th Annual Foundation Open golf tournament, the foundations' signature event, raises funds for NMC's important educational programs and services.

"Caronel believes in supporting higher education," said Caronel Watch Center boutique manager Shiori Onoue. "It is proud to assist the NMC Foundation in its goal to fundraise for educational purposes."

The NMC Foundation is a non-profit organization composed of community volunteers committed to improving higher education opportunities for students in the CNMI.

"The NMC Foundation would like to thank Caronel Watch Center for its donation and we thank them for their show of commitment to raising funds for higher education," said Ivan Quichocho, vice president of NMC Foundation.

The 9th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament



NMC  
Caronel Watch Center boutique manager Shiori Onoue presents NMC Foundation vice president Ivan Quichocho with a check for \$2,000. The proceeds will support the Foundation's efforts to fundraise for NMC's educational programs.

will be held at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (West Course) on Saturday April 30,

## Korean drama to bring NMI \$1M in ad exposure

A weekend drama on one of Korea's top three television channels will film on Saipan this week, bringing an estimated \$1 million in ad exposure to this resort destination.

A cast and crew of 49 arrived on Saipan yesterday to film parts of two episodes of MBC TV's *Listen to My Heart*. The 60-minute weekly show airs on Saturday and Sunday nights to a broad target audience of men and women in their 20s to 60s.

While in the Northern Marianas, the show will film at Banzai Cliff and other loca-

tions around Saipan. *Listen to My Heart* is a poignant love story revolving around a young couple with social, family, and relationship issues.

The show's first episode had a nationwide viewership share of 15 percent last Saturday (April 2) and 13 percent last Sunday (April 3). This translates to an audience of around 7.5 million people watching the show. The scenes filmed on Saipan will be about 20 minutes long and will air during the fourth and the final episodes of the show this season. (*MVA*)

2011, with a shotgun start at 7am and will follow a medal play format.

The first place prizes include cash and a roundtrip ticket on Continental Asia and Micronesia, second and third are cash prizes. There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, seniors, and ladies.

In addition to first, second, and third place prizes for the flights, the event will include hole-in-one prizes. The entrance fee is \$95 per player.

For information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu) or call 234-5498 Ext 1050. Registration forms are available online or by visiting the NMC Cashier's Office, Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, or Triple J Motors. (*NMC*)

Ellis Fujihira Barcinas  
P.O. Box 520238  
Tinian, MP 96952

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of ) FCD CN CIVIL  
the Petition for ) ACTION  
the Change of ) NO. 11-0100T  
Name of: )

) NOTICE OF  
) HEARING  
ELSIE BARSINAS )  
Petitioner. )

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on **April 15, 2011 at 10:00 am in Tinian Courthouse** before Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

Dated this 10th day of March, 2011.

BERNADITA A. SABLON  
Clerk OF Court

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ, F0122  
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANA HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0033
Plaintiff,	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
-v-	
THERESE LIZAMA SALAS,	
Defendant.	

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP, 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:  
/s/ Clerk of Court

Dated this 17th day of March, 2011

NORTHERN MARIANA HOUSING CORPORATION  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)  
PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 7, 2011 \* TIME: 10:00 AM  
**NMHC RFP 2011-002**  
"ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES  
FOR  
THE DIVISION OF THE TINIAN FIRE STATION"

Proposal packets will be available on March 18, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2011, at the NMHC Tinian Field Office in San Jose, Tinian.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane  
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director  
Division of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL**  
PO Box 506296 Saipan, MP 96950. TEL.: (670)322-6537 FAX: (670)322-6536  
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY '11 Second General Membership on Thursday, April 07, 2011 at the Claret, Fiesta Resort and Spa at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

**AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and adoption of the FY'11 1st Meeting Minutes (01/19/11)
- V. Reports
  - a. OVR Director
  - b. Council Liaison
  - c. SRC Chair
  - d. Sub-Committee
  - e. Travel Report
- VI. Old Business
  - Public Forum
  - Needs Assessment
  - HB 17-43
- VII. New Business
  - SRC Training
  - High Tech Info
- VIII. Consumer Forum
  - Ms. Helen Sablan-Medicaid Services and Benefits
- IX. Announcements
- X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ Jesus M. Elameto  
CHAIRMAN

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. \_\_\_\_

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
**Mark Rabago** ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## Business beats bigotry

By **GREGORY RODRIGUEZ**  
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Rodriguez, a columnist for the Times' opinion pages, is director of the California Fellows Program at the New America Foundation. E-mail Rodriguez at [grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com](mailto:grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com).



**C**onservative Utah has bucked the national GOP trend of embracing hard-line—and arguably inhumane—laws meant to make states inhospitable to illegal immigrants. Two weeks ago, Utah Gov. Gary R. Herbert signed into law a bill that will grant work permits, and a path to legal residence, to undocumented immigrants and their immediate families.

And conservative Arizona, which last year passed the anti-immigrant law known as SB 1070, defeated a second slate of such measures, including one that sought to deny birthright citizenship to the U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants.

Surprised? You shouldn't be. There's nothing inherently conservative about taking a punitive line against illegal immigrants. Instead, as these votes in Utah and Arizona show, old-school conservatism—that of employers and business interests—just might be the key to finally dealing justly with the 11 million people living within our borders without papers.

Business' first loyalty is to the bottom line. That tends to make businesspeople seem indifferent to social issues; they concentrate on balancing their books and staying afloat, not on saving the world. For the politically liberal, that smacks of meanness and greed. But cool pragmatism is the right antidote for passionate bigotry. In fact, despite all the time and energy Americans spend praising the wonders of tolerance and the virtues of inclusion, bottom-line values have throughout our history done about as much to fight bigotry as has any particular brand of high-minded moralism.

In the 18th century, the French political thinker Montesquieu, whose writings influenced the founders, concluded that “commerce is a cure for the most destructive prejudices.” As a rule, he wrote, business flourished wherever one found “agreeable manners.”

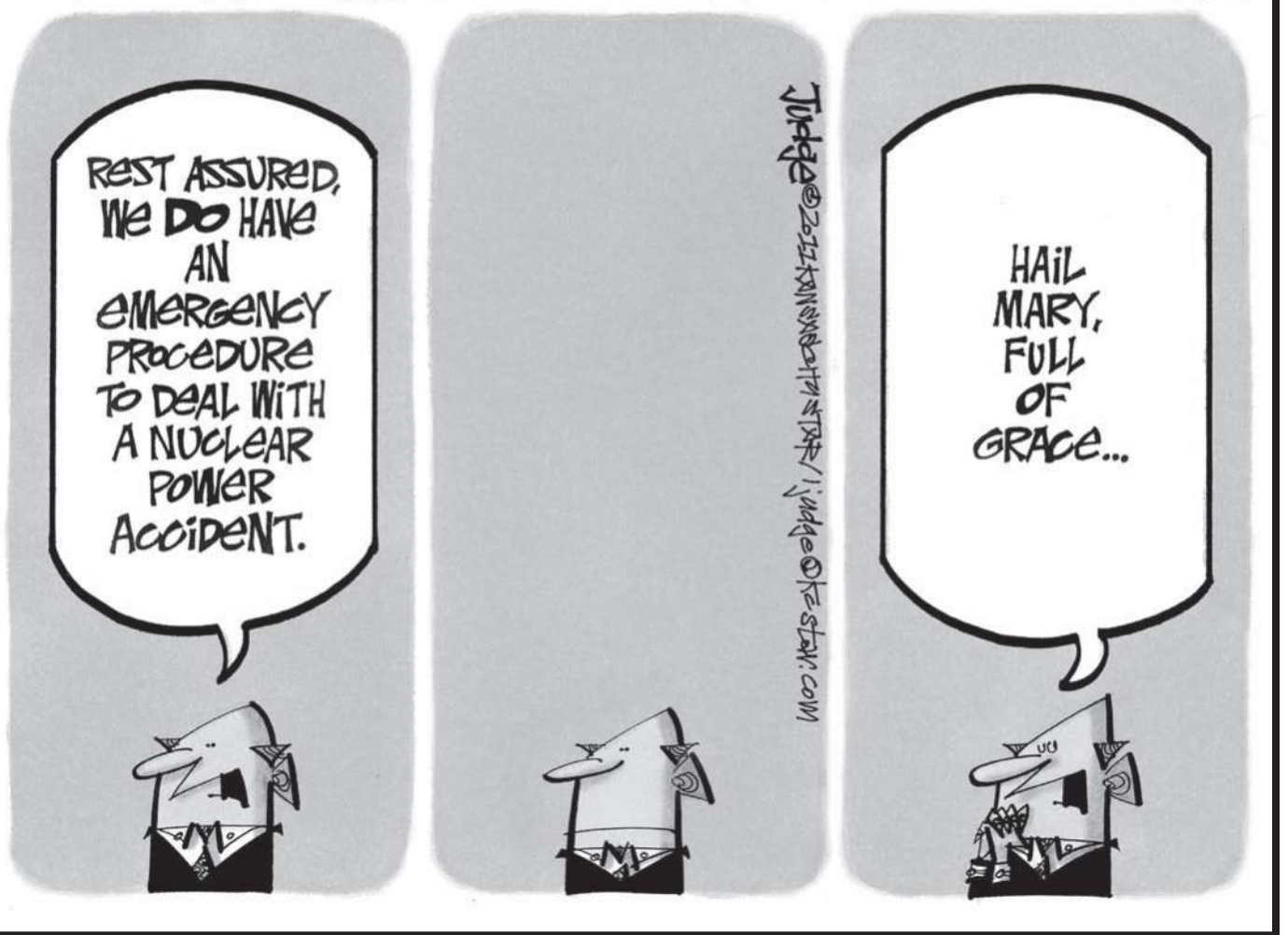
Indeed, the United States owes much of its belief in religious tolerance to the capitalist legacy of Dutch New Amsterdam. When Peter Stuyvesant, the governor of what would become New York, tried to legalize discrimination against Quakers and Jews, it was the Dutch West India Co. that forced him to stop. In the case of Quakers, the merchants agreed that the sect was an aberration but that persecuting a minority in a polyglot colony was simply bad for business.

More recently, the profit motive helped undermine racial restrictions that were used to keep blacks out of certain neighborhoods. In her 2010 book, “The Warmth of Other Suns,” about the migration of African-Americans to the North, Isabel Wilkerson argues that efforts to keep blacks out of Harlem, and later some parts of L.A., failed “not because anti-black forces gave up or grew more tolerant” but because property owners had a choice to either maintain a whites-only policy in a market being deserted by whites or to take advantage of the rising black demand. Most wound up taking the pragmatic route.

As Jonathan Koppell, dean of the public policy school at Arizona State University, says, “Most businesses are hard-pressed to let visceral emotions drive decisions to the point where the balance sheet suffers. In the marketplace, alienating a significant

See BUSINESS on Next Page

## A MESSAGE from the NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY...



## The missing subject in Arab uprisings

**T**here is much about the Middle East that needs changing. It was always a matter of time, for example, before the people would rise up and demand freedom. But we have yet to see the leaders of the uprisings make a forceful case to address one of the most serious problems in the region: the routine abuse, harassment and even the brutalization of women.

The subject gained attention when CBS correspondent Lara Logan was hospitalized following a “sustained sexual assault and beating” while covering celebrations of the fall of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Back then, some blame-the-victim observers said perhaps women should not cover such events, or maybe Logan was not dressed appropriately.

The incident brought to mind a mind-boggling conversation I had years ago while working in Cairo. My Egyptian colleague, normally a forward-looking man, insisted that a woman who doesn't dress modestly has only herself to blame if men rape her. I had not heard that outrageous argument in decades, and my Egyptian friend had never heard the view that nothing excuses rape. He ultimately agreed, leading me to conclude that a determined education campaign might change attitudes, at least among part of the population.

For now, reformers have not made the cause of women's rights prominent in their demands because the attitudes that cause the problem are endemic in the population, not just in the regimes they seek to change. But if progressive leaders want to improve life for everyone, women's rights should figure at the top of their agenda. Many throughout the region fervently hope conditions for women will improve.

How women dress, incidentally, has absolutely nothing to do with the problem. Studies in Egypt have shown that the overwhelming majority of Egyptian women have been harassed, and most of them were wearing Islamic headscarves at the time of the abuse. But sexual harassment is the least of it.

Even in the New Egypt, we hear reports of women being arrested, tortured and subjected to “virginity exams” in view of soldiers. The region is rife with honor killings of the victims of sexual crimes. Genital mutilation continues and, to different degrees, discrimination against women is the order of the day in every single Arab country.

Women are in for “special” treatment in every situation. When a team of New York Times journalists was detained in Libya, the woman photographer among them was repeatedly groped by her captors. And we still don't know the fate of Eman al-Obeidy, the Libyan woman who managed to tell foreign reporters she had been raped by 15 men while in custody, even as she struggled

By **FRIDA GHITIS**  
McClatchy Newspapers

Frida Ghitis writes about global affairs for The Miami Herald. Readers may send her e-mail at [fightis@gmail.com](mailto:fightis@gmail.com).



with security forces who pulled a black hood over her head and drove her away.

In Saudi Arabia, women have been told yet again that they will not be allowed to vote in upcoming municipal elections. It's no wonder. They are still banned from driving, working, or traveling without a man's permission. The mere suggestion of such rules would cause women to riot in other countries.

In the desert kingdom, courageous women inspired by actions in neighboring nations, have joined to form the Saudi Women's Revolution. They demand equality and are asking the rest of the world to support them.

The Arab Middle East—and Egypt in particular—act as a beacon that guides customs and beliefs in other Muslim countries, where mistreatment can reach horrifying, infuriating depths.

A few days ago, in Bangladesh, a 14-year-old girl named Hena was beaten and raped. As a result, she was accused and found guilty of adultery by the village Imam, who issued a fatwa, a religious ruling sentencing her to 100 lashes for her transgression, whatever that was.

Hena managed to withstand 70 lashes before collapsing and requiring hospitalization. She died of her injuries. An autopsy, incredibly, ruled her death a suicide.

Attitudes toward women have become infected by the social and political stagnation that the region now wants to shed. A spotlight on women's rights, at this moment, could have a powerful impact throughout the Muslim world.

Women are part of the movement that overthrew regimes in Egypt and Tunisia, and many of their male comrades-in-revolution share the urgency of their plight. Demands for democracy and efforts to institute liberal reforms should include a special focus on women. Democracy advocates, enlisting the support of moderate Muslims, could improve hundreds of millions of lives and move their countries forward by insisting, not a moment too soon, on full rights for women.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters

that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## A victim of Article XII

Indeed, I've had my share of vilification for supporting the repeal of Article XII, the race-based discriminatory land policy under the NMI Constitution. But I am willing to pay the price in search of the truth and in defense and protection of the natural rights of citizens to own their property 100 percent.

Such a right is a derivative of "We the people...the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" inherent under what's known as first principles or US Constitution. *It is a right that is enduring, therefore, non-negotiable. It means fidelity to first principles and a moral obligation to build a seamless relationship with our fellow man as equals under any and all laws.*

I'm not ready to trumpet bigotry by denying fellow U.S. citizens "equal protection under the law" with superficial musings or appealing abstracts that disintegrate upon being exposed to fresh air. But you find such discrimination inherent under Article XII of the NMI Constitution.

Nor is it right to use flights of rhetorical fancy to empower local demagogues to continue political hegemony in concert with the powers that be at the expense of the fate of governance. It has got to stop and the buck stops right here!

A famous professor emeritus of first principles said this about the rights of citizens to own property: "When property is jealously protected, demagogic politicians cannot take advantage of social change or even crises to implement feel-good policy that is politically and/or economically bankrupt."

The professor further noted that keeping human freedom and dignity in full view has "enabled many to see that liberty is more than a political concept." I'm not ready either to employ the Faustian bargain by which the citizen "gives the devil his dues" by accepting free lunch to compromise their freedom and dignity.

"Property and freedom is fundamental to understanding how we got from history's anarchy to a workable, if imperfect, conception of civil society. It is the precept of ethical and humane behavior, no less than of political wisdom, to adapt economic policy to man, not man to economic policy." Yes, I have stated the obvious anomalies under Article XII and I do not apologize for it given that it is the

obvious that is so often most difficult to see.

The debate would be vicious as old demagogues take their last stance to control the tenor of discussion. But speak up now and begin promoting the bright side of an old proverb: Feed a man a fish and he eats for a day; teach a man how to fish and he eats for a lifetime.

I have read Article XII to find out what it says versus what others said it said that it didn't say. I finally met the beast! I'd rather be on the side of doing what's right with clear conscience, courage, dignity, and integrity. This is rudimentary in building and strengthening the concept of self-government.

### Testimonials

Two years ago I received an urgent call from my son that he really needs financial help from mom and dad. I walked into the bank hoping to secure a quick loan using the equity (value) of my property as collateral. Sadly, the bank has closed all real estate loans because of difficult experiences with Article XII.

This and other testimonials of denial against what's supposedly private property were sufficient to revisit and seek the permanent repeal of this provision. How sad to find out the dire reality of my land being useless for purposes of my own benefit.

After thorough review, it becomes an imperative moral and social obligation to trumpet the discriminatory and regressive effects of such land policy that has victimized others whose lives it's supposed to enhance. It includes all homesteaders who are qualified for real estate loans, a program effectively scrapped by most banks because of the anomalous nature of Article XII.

It also includes local veterans who can't take advantage of loans available to them as military retirees because of Article XII. Is the prohibitive and inhibitive nature of Article XII appropriate for those who placed their lives on the line in defense of freedom? Have you folks seen fit to compromise 100 percent ownership just so that you can feel good about it trashing a more positive paradigm to help veterans and homestead applicants?

I've also listened to testimonials how a nephew unsuccessfully tried to borrow against the equity of his property to attend to medical issues with a loved one. He was denied a loan by the bank even before explaining the urgency of bringing his spouse for thorough cancer exam and treatment at an off-island medical center. Did any

War II history that gave the islands a special story 50 years later to sell the Japanese and U.S. mainland tourist market. Fourth, some of the best tropical weather on the planet that God saw fit to let you live and breath free under. Talk about a winning combo.

How could anyone screw it up so fast so quickly, and then blame everyone else? Just like a rich brat kid who had it all from birth and never learnt the meaning of struggle. CNMI tourism, you had it all from the beginning, baby, and never struggled to get that constant wave of '80s and '90s Japanese and Korean tourism buck, it was a no-brainer.

Now you're stuck with an economic island model that's fundamentally broken, rotten with stagnant nepotism, and no leadership on how to truly build a tourism industry, or take responsibility for its failings.

MVA needs the money to build the only industry the islands will ever sustain. You dummy career politicians, wake up. Every penny you hold back from the only entity that has at least some ability to rebuild the long term economy, you're destroying your children's future.

**Chris West**  
Los Angeles, Calif.

power is a good idea for the north side, they can be placed strategically to absorb the sun for there to be power in Marpi and the surrounding area. Everyone knows that tourism is the main industry here in the CNMI, we have no other source of income, so our government officials should know how this is affecting the island.

**Jacqueline Juliet Rangamar**  
Student, Marianas High School

repeat the mistake.

As for Arizona, with five more virulently anti-immigrant measures up for consideration, 60 state business leaders sent a letter to the Legislature asking them to not make matters worse.

None of this suggests that Republicans or most voters in these states are suddenly pro-illegal immigration. What it may mean, however, is that the pragmatism of pro-business conservatism is finally standing its ground against the emotionalism of social conservatism.

That's a good thing, because emotion is no substitute for problem solving. When it comes to immigration, and so much more, America needs the bottom line now more than ever.

By **JOHN DELROSARIO**  
*Special to the Saipan Tribune*

*DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.*



of the proponents to retaining Article XII step forward to provide for his urgent familial need?

It is also a fact that question of ownership has compromised the value of private land. It spins off into a huge drop in the value of property. This is sufficient to further victimize private landowners whose ownership is limited to 50 percent per Article XII. A lot is wrong with this ludicrous form of landownership, a statist view that has no place under the NMI Constitution.

It is literally an infringement of a citizen's rights to property. Did we conveniently skirt or miss this constitutional principle while studying problems of American democracy in high school? Did we choose to ignore the basic tenets of the U.S. Constitution? Isn't the right to own property a principle that is non-negotiable? Why can't we guard it for *all* U.S. citizens? Why do we now have problems guarding the "principle of equal of protection" under the law? How far do we wish to promote our hypocritical views of this most vital constitutional principle? Isn't this morally and legally wrong?

For all our grand *mañana*, we've become a colossus, paralyzed by our culture of reluctance, coupled with bigotry as to become a doddering convalescent plagued by economic sclerosis after having relied on soft and wobbly leadership for the last three decades. We seem incapable of sifting through policies by imposing what's right. We've just about exhausted every trick in the bag, even recycled ones.

That we can no longer find more scapegoats, we now turn to the defense of bigotry by declaring the discriminatory Article XII as sound policy. Must exit this grossly embarrassing adolescence! Instead, let's water our garden and nurture political maturity with dew from heaven in fostering *I Pluribus Unum* or In Many, One.

## Support of Rota veterans' cemetery

I am not a military veteran but I am in full support of a House bill introduced by Rep. Teresita A. Santos for the site designation and creation of a veterans' cemetery on Rota. The intent of such a bill is very commendable for the benefit of our active armed forces personnel and our veterans. There is no doubt that the sacrifices of our veterans who have served the nation in defense of our freedom deserve special recognition. This goes the same with those of our active young men and women who are currently serving abroad.

It is rather sad to see that some of our Vietnam veterans were laid to rest in a civilian cemetery without much recognition. In fact, just recently, two of our young sons were killed while on deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. Although both fallen heroes received military honor and recognition, they were laid to rest in a civilian cemetery as well. If we have a veterans' cemetery in place, our veterans and heroes will be buried in such a special site. Even if there is a veterans' cemetery on Siapan, it is extremely difficult for the family to bury their loved ones there. They have always come to decision to bury their loved ones on Rota where traditionally family members, relatives and friends gather and help each other. In essence, during Veterans Day, Memorial Day and All Souls Day, family members can easily visit the gravesite of their loved ones without the need to arrange for travel to Saipan. This is rather difficult for the family members to incur travel and other personal expenses while on Saipan. The loss of loved ones is enough suffering for the family and to bury them at the veterans' cemetery on Saipan would be an added burden.

We should be thankful to Rep. Santos for her continued commitment and effort in working forward for the benefit and recognition of our people of Rota. I humbly ask the members of the House of Representatives to support the House bill that will designate and create a veterans' cemetery on the island of Rota.

**Rufo Maratita**  
Sinapalo, Rota

## Letters to the Editor

### Destroying the future

As I'm reading the latest drama about MVA not getting their allotment of funds from the boys up on Capitol Hill, it makes you wonder just where the priorities of this administration are. And in fairness, it's not just the current regime. I'm talking about going all the way to the days of Fast Froilan and the boys from the go-go '90s.

Here's my point. Saipan never had to really struggle to build its tourism business. You were handed freebie after lucky strike time and time again. First, with Japan's roaring economy of the '80s; they were flush with cash and they were only 2.5 hours away, a stroke of luck! And a friggin' gold mine you never had to dig for. Second, you'd gotten free U.S. gold branding and status that lent consumer confidence, no fear factors to battle with, like the Philippines has with crime, or Bali with bombings. Third, a rich World

## Find another source of power

My name is Jacqueline Rangamar and I attend school at Marianas High School. My third-period teacher, Mr. Tyce Mister, teaches tourism. He brought to our attention the talk surrounding the issue of the Marpi power poles. We were encouraged to write to you about what we felt about it and what we think should be done about this issue.

I personally think that tourists are not likely to want to see power poles strewn about, blocking the view of Saipan's natural beauty. Why can't they have another source of power brought there? Solar

## BUSINESS

From Page 10

segment of the population is never a good strategy. Sadly, the same cannot be said of the political arena."






So how did business meet politics in Utah and Arizona?

Utah saw the economic damage Arizona did to itself with SB 1070. The law, which prods police to question those they stop about their immigration status, drew boycotts and cost the state millions of dollars in tourism and convention business. Pushed by business leaders and the Mormon Church, politicians didn't

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Northwest winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 90 ▼ 77
Majuro	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 77

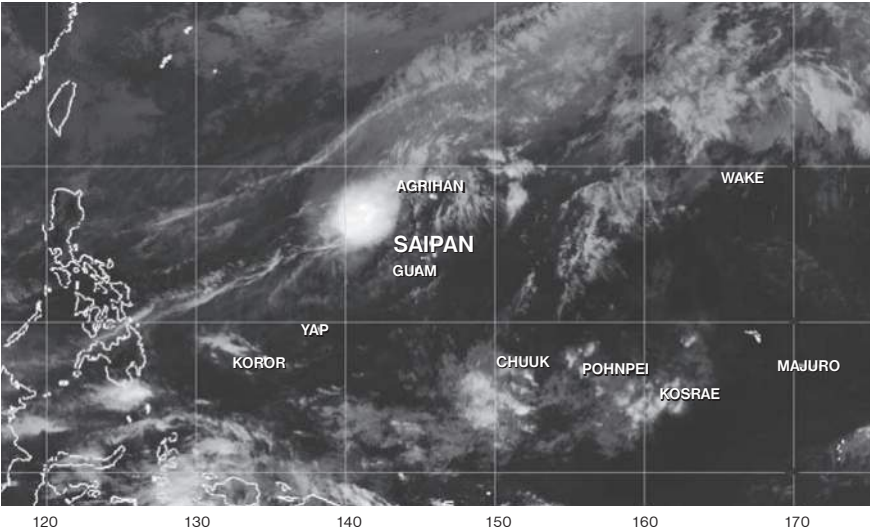
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 60
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 40
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 65
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 80 ▼ 70
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 43
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 73
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 52
Miami	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 71
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 56 ▼ 43
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 49
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 48
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 52
Rome	Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 50
Salem	Showers	▲ 52 ▼ 41
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 51
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 43
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 49
Washington, DC	Rain	▲ 59 ▼ 39

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
3:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet	
8:35 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
3:34 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet	
10:09 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



#### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 02W is centered near 15N139E moving northeast at 22 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 15N and 18N from 139E to 143E. For more detailed information on Tropical Depression 02W, see Jtwc bulletins issued under wmo header wtpn31 pgtw. A nearly stationary front extends northeastward from 18N141E through circulations centered near the far Northern Mariana Islands at 21N149E and northwest of Wake Island at 24N159E to finally beyond 25N at 160E. Clouds and patchy rain are found along and north of this boundary to beyond 25N to the south of the front. Convergent south winds are producing scattered showers north of Wake Island between 21N and 25N from 160E to 180. A surface trough extends southward from 7N152E to 1N151E. Scattered showers are found just south of Chuuk between 2N and 7N from 148E to 153E. Another surface trough extends northward from 3N161E to 7N161E. Scattered showers are found southeast of Pohnpei between 3N and 6N from 157E to 162E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:09 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:31 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:30 AM	8:38 PM
Thursday	8:15 AM	9:30 PM
Friday	9:03 AM	10:23 PM
Saturday	9:54 AM	11:16 PM
Sunday	10:48 AM	

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09605 6:20pm 7:10pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 6:10am 8:45am Daily DL285 6:40am 9:15am 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL286 7:45pm 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 DL288 8:00pm 12:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:50am 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:10pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:20pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b> CA988 3:15am 6:55am 1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only	<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b> CA987 6:40pm 1:55am+1 4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL285/173 6:40am 10:15pm 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT C09313/933 7:55am 9:25pm 3 via GUM C09313/893 7:55am 11:00pm 3 via GUM-Palau C09603/933 3:05pm 9:25pm 5 via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 11:00pm 5 via GUM-Palau OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN OZ604/715 3:20pm 11:30pm 7 C09605/933 6:20pm 9:40pm 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ716/603 12:30am 2:20pm 4, 6 via ICN DL172/286 8:05am 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C0890/9606 10:55am 8:50pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:25am+1 6 via GUM PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM-Palau C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 4 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:35pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/603 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/603 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

### FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily				
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				

### GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Business

Southwest accident prompts FAA inspection order

PHOENIX (AP)—Federal aviation officials readied an order Monday for emergency inspections on 80 U.S.-registered Boeing 737 jetliners like the one on which a piece of fuselage tore away more than 30,000 feet above Arizona last week.

The order, to be issued Tuesday, is aimed at finding weaknesses in the metal in the fuselage, but virtually all of the affected aircraft will have already been inspected by the time the order takes effect.

A 5-foot-long hole opened up in the roof of the Southwest Airlines plane soon after takeoff Friday from Phoenix, causing a loss of pressure and forcing pilots to make an emergency landing 125 miles to the southwest in Yuma, Ariz. No one was seriously hurt.

The safety directive applies to about 175 aircraft worldwide, including 80 planes registered in the U.S., the Federal Aviation Administration said. Of those 80, nearly all are operated by Southwest. Two belong to Alaska Airlines.

After the midair incident, Southwest grounded nearly 80 Boeing 737-300s for inspections. By Monday evening, 64

Trouble in the sky

Boeing is recommending all airlines check older 737-300 models after a hole was torn in the fuselage ceiling of a Southwest Airlines jet.

Still in the air

More than 760 737-300s are currently in service; fleet size of selected carriers

Airline	Fleet	Age of jets
Southwest	170	14-27 years
Lufthansa	33	16-25 years
Air China	28	13-19 years
U.S. Airways	19	22-25 years
Air New Zealand	15	14-16 years

NOTE: Includes some models that may currently be in storage

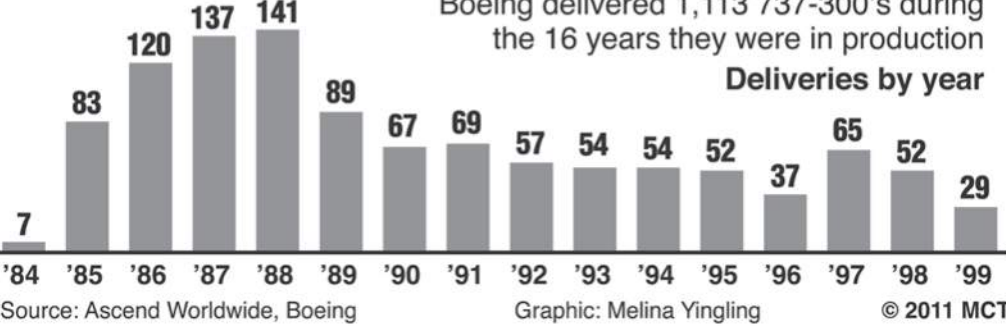


Type	Commercial passenger
Wingspan	94 ft. 8 in. (5.2 m)
Length	109 ft. 6 in. (33.4 m)
Height	36 ft. 5 in. (11.1 m)
Capacity	126-149

Aging fleet

Boeing delivered 1,113 737-300's during the 16 years they were in production

Deliveries by year



Targeted nature of email breach worries experts

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Think twice next time you get an email from Chase or Citi asking you to log in to your credit card account. The bank may not have sent it.

A security breach that exposed the email addresses of potentially millions of customers of major U.S. banks, hotels and stores is more likely than traditional scams to ultimately trick people into revealing personal information.

Security experts said Monday they were alarmed that the breach involved targeted information—tying individuals to businesses they patronize—and could make customers more likely to reveal passwords, Social Security numbers and other sensitive data.

The company that was in charge of the email addresses, a Dallas marketing firm called Epsilon, handles online marketing for some of the biggest names in business. Those companies have flooded customers in recent days with warnings to be on guard.

Epsilon said that while hackers had stolen customer email addresses, a rigorous assessment determined that no other personal information was compromised. By itself, without passwords and other sensitive data, email addresses are of little use to criminals. But they can be used to craft dangerous online attacks.

Citi credit card customers, for example, are more likely to respond to an email claiming to be from Citigroup than from a random bank. The email might direct the customer to a site that looks like the bank's site, capture login information and use it to access the real account.

David Jevans, chairman and founder of the nonprofit Anti-Phishing Working Group, said criminals have been moving away from indiscriminate email scams, known as "phishing," toward more intelligent attacks known as "spear phishing," which rely on more intimate knowledge of victims.

"This data breach is going to facilitate that in a big way," said Jevans, also CEO of security company IronKey Inc. "Now they know which institution people bank with, they know their name and they have their email address."

event negotiators don't strike a deal by Friday's deadline.

House GOP plans 3rd stopgap bill to avoid shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP)—With budget talks deadlocked, House Republicans drafted a one-week bill Monday night to cut spending by \$12 billion, fully fund the Pentagon and avert a government shutdown threatened for Friday.

At the same time, they disclosed plans to instruct lawmakers "on how the House would operate in the event Senate Democrats shut down the government."

The display of brinksmanship came at the end of a day marked by increasing acrimony in budget negotiations, and drew a sarcastic response from Democrats.

"House Republicans should focus on negotiating, not planning dress rehearsals for a shutdown that the Tea Party so desires," said Jon Summers, a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

He said Democrats "remain committed to negotiating a solution that would prevent a government shutdown."

The Obama administration, meanwhile, is advising government agencies to take the proper steps to prepare for a shutdown.

In a memo to agency officials, the deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget, Jeffrey Zients, urged agency heads to refine and update contingency plans in the

event negotiators don't strike a deal by Friday's deadline. Zients noted that all parties wish to avoid a shutdown, but added, "given the realities of the calendar, good management requires that we continue contingency planning for an orderly shutdown should the negotiations not be completed by ... this coming Friday." The memo was first reported by The Washington Post.

were cleared to return to the skies, and three were found with cracks similar to those found on the Arizona plane.

Friday's incident, however, raised questions about the impact that frequent takeoffs and landings by short-haul carriers like Southwest put on their aircraft and the adequacy of the inspections.

Since there had been no previous accidents or major incidents involving metal fatigue in that spot of the fuselage, Boeing maintenance procedures called only for a visual inspection by airlines.

But airlines, manufacturers and federal regulators have known since at least 1988 that planes can suffer microscopic fractures. That year, an 18-foot section of the upper cabin of an Aloha Airlines 737-200 separated in flight, sucking out a flight attendant.

The order is "certainly a step in the right direction," said National Transportation

Safety Board member Robert Sumwalt, who is in Yuma with the board's accident investigation team.

The FAA's emergency order will require initial inspections using electromagnetic devices on some Boeing 737 aircraft in the -300, -400 and -500 series that have accumulated more than 30,000 takeoffs and landings, the agency said.

It will then require repetitive inspections at regular intervals.

Southwest's jet was 15 years old and had logged 39,000 pressurization cycles, a measurement of the number of takeoffs and landings. That's 7.2 cycles every day for every year it has been in service.

Boeing said Monday that it will issue guidance this week on how airlines should do checks on the affected airplanes now in service. An estimated 1,800 airplanes, including -300, -400, -500 model 737s, are affected by the aircraft maker's service bulletin.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bernanke: Fed to improve financial oversight

WASHINGTON (AP)—Regulators are working closely to strengthen oversight of inner workings of the nation's financial system, part of a broader effort to prevent a repeat of the 2008 financial crisis, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said Monday. The financial overhaul law enacted last year directs the Fed and other agencies to better coordinate supervision of financial "clearinghouses." They are institutions that handle the enormous volume of payments and transactions of securities and derivatives conducted each day by financial companies. Clearinghouses are an important part of the country's financial infrastructure.

ment for full-time and part-time positions. The company's hiring goal translates to between three and four new hires per restaurant. Turnover slowed in the past few years because of the weak economy, the company says. McDonald's sees this event an opportunity to attract employees in a tough job market. (AP)

McDonald's wants to fill 50K jobs on hiring day

McDonald's Corp. will hold its first national hiring day April 19 to fill 50,000 openings at its restaurants nationwide. The company, based in Oak Brook, Ill., says it is making a concerted effort to add staff as its business improves and as more of its restaurants stay open 24 hours a day. McDonald's is hiring restaurant crew and manage-

Icahn, others make bids for Blockbuster

NEW YORK (AP)—Blockbuster Inc. mulled bids from Carl Icahn and others in an auction process that began Monday in New York that will decide the fate of the troubled video-rental chain. Potential bidders, lenders and Blockbuster representatives met in several rooms at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of New York on Monday. A sign on one room said it was reserved for Carl Icahn's Icahn Acquisition Corp. The billionaire investor did not return a call seeking comment. The Wall Street Journal reported liquidation firms Gordon Brothers Group and Hilco Merchant Resources submitted a joint bid for some of Blockbuster's assets including its DVDs. Gordon Brothers could not be reached. Hilco declined to comment.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,400.00	1,332.87	2,789.19
23.31	0.46	-0.41
0.19%	0.03%	-0.01%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7769	Philippine Peso	43.3000
Australian Dollar	0.9661	Singapore Dollar	1.2602
British Pound	0.6188	Indonesian Rupiah	8,662.5
Canadian Dollar	0.9666	Japanese Yen	83.8910
Chinese Yuan	6.5450	Malaysian Ringgit	3.0258
Euro	0.7022	New Zealand Dollar	1.3028
		Taiwan Dollar	29.1300
		Thailand Baht	30.2250

# Nation

## Holder: 9/11 suspects to face military tribunals

WASHINGTON (AP)—Yielding to political opposition, Attorney General Eric Holder announced Monday that 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four alleged henchmen will be referred to military commissions for trial rather than to a civilian federal court in New York.

The families of those killed in the Sept. 11 attacks have waited almost a decade for justice, and “it must not be delayed any longer,” Holder told a news conference.

Holder had announced the earlier plan for trial in New York City in November 2009, but that foundered amid widespread opposition to a civilian court trial from Republicans and even some Democrats, particularly in New York. Congress passed legislation that prohibits bringing any detainees from the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the United States.

Monday, the attorney general called the congressional restrictions unwise and unwarranted and said a legislative

body cannot make prosecutorial decisions.

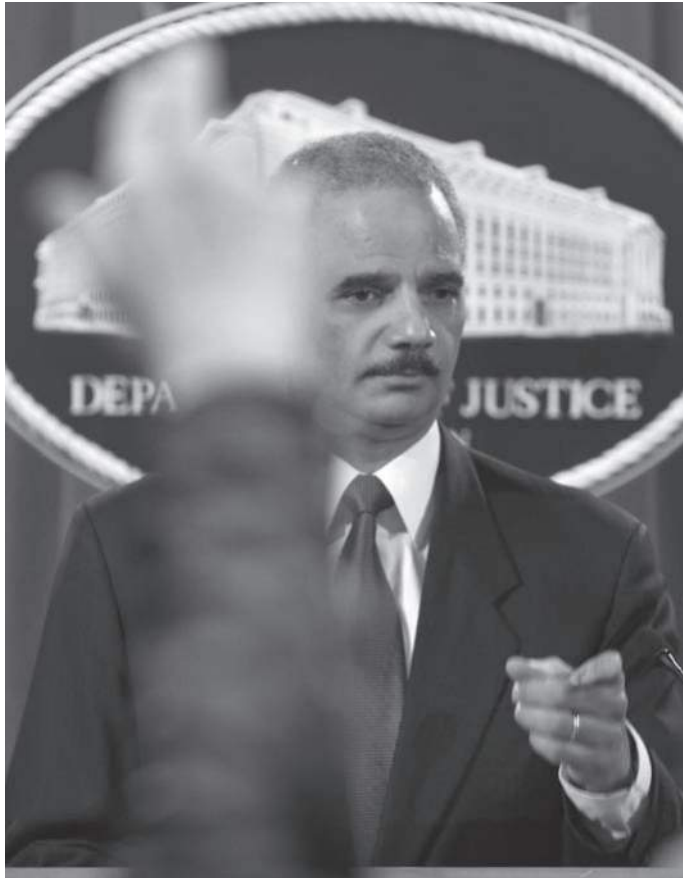
Most Republicans applauded the turnabout, but Holder said he is still convinced that his earlier decision was the right one. The Justice Department had been prepared to bring “a powerful case” in civilian court, he said.

In New York on Monday, the government unsealed and got a judge to dismiss an indictment in the case that charged Mohammed and the others with 10 counts relating to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The dismissal was because the defendants will not be tried in civilian court.

The indictment said that in late August 2001, as the terrorists in the United States made final preparations, Mohammed was notified about the date of the attack and relayed that to Osama bin Laden.

Some 9/11 family members supported the switch to military commissions.

“We’re delighted,” said Alexander Santora, 74, father of deceased firefighter Chris-



Attorney General Eric Holder gestures during a news conference at the Justice Department in Washington, Monday, April 4, 2011, where he announced plans to try avowed 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four alleged henchmen before a military commission.

topher A. Santora. The father called the accused terrorists “demonic human beings, they’ve already said that they would kill us if they could, if they got the chance they would do it again.”

Nancy Nee, whose firefighter brother George Cain died at the World Trade Center, said that the five men are “war criminals as far as I’m concerned and I think that a military trial is the right thing to do.”

However, a top Democrat, Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Patrick Leahy of Vermont, said he is disappointed with the decision not to prosecute in federal court. “I believe that our justice system, which is the envy of the world, is more than capable of trying high-profile terrorism and national security cases,” said Leahy.

Republican lawmakers welcomed the shift.

“It’s unfortunate that it took the Obama administration more than two years to figure out what the majority of Americans already know: that 9/11 con-

spirator Khalid Sheikh Mohammed is not a common criminal, he’s a war criminal,” said House Judiciary Committee Chairman Lamar Smith of Texas.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Jeff Sessions of Alabama said he was “pleased that the Obama administration has finally heeded those who rebuked their decision and that the trial is being held where it belongs.” The American Civil Liberties Union criticized the administration’s decision.

Cases prosecuted in military commissions now “are sure to be subject to continuous legal challenges and delays, and their outcomes will not be seen as legitimate. That is not justice,” said ACLU executive director Anthony D. Romero.

Holder said it is unclear whether the five men could receive the death penalty if they plead guilty in military court.

The political fight over where to try the alleged 9/11 plotters is part of a bigger battle in which Republicans want no detainees from Guantanamo Bay brought into the United States.

## Obama opens bid for new term, no longer outsider

WASHINGTON (AP)—No longer the fresh voice of change, President Barack Obama embarked on a bid for re-election Monday by asking a divided, anxious electorate to let him finish the job he won in 2008. He’s getting an early start against a Republican field that’s still undefined, but he’s saddled with an ailing economy that still isn’t working for millions of voters.

Obama began with an effort to recapture his outsider’s touch of 2008, bypassing a public statement from the White House in favor of an email sent to millions of supporters. He offered a kickoff video in which official Washington is ignored and even Obama himself only makes a



In this Aug. 23, 2008 file photo, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama D-Ill., and his vice presidential running mate Sen. Joe Biden D-Del. applaud at a campaign stop in Springfield, Ill.

fleeting appearance. What the campaign wanted voters to see instead were people like them

speaking of real-life concerns and their faith in Obama, against wholesome backdrops in every

clip: a church, a farm, a family in a kitchen, an American flag.

Yet this time around, Obama carries both the benefits and baggage of being the establishment candidate.

The president now owns an economy that is adding jobs but still leaving millions of people without help or work. As the incumbent, he can blow into town on Air Force One, draw unparalleled free media coverage and command all the other perks of the presidency. But he must also remobilize his coalition and reenergize it, too, including getting back the independent voters who swung Republican in last year’s midterm elections.

Obama ran once on hope. This time he will run on his record as well. That means voters will evaluate him on what he has gotten done, including laws to reshape health insurance and Wall Street behavior, and the promises he has not delivered upon, including immigration reform and closing the prison

at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A huge part of his challenge will be to spark the voter inspiration that often got lost in the slog of governing. His new campaign video gave a nod to the challenge. A woman named Alice from Michigan said: “We’re paying him to do a job. So we can’t say, ‘Hey, could you just take some time off and come and get us all energized?’ So we better figure it out.”

## Unions mark MLK’s death with national protests

ATLANTA (AP)—The eldest son of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said Monday if his father had not been killed 43 years ago, the civil rights icon would be fighting alongside the workers rallying to protect collective bargaining rights.

Martin Luther King III said he will join marchers across the country on the anniversary of his father’s assassination, in support of workers’ rights. At the time of his death, King was in Memphis, Tenn., supporting a strike of black municipal sanitation workers. His son said the fight was for dignity and democracy, and he compares that struggle to the battle over collective bargaining rights in states including Wisconsin, In-

diana and Ohio.

“If he were with us, he would be very concerned that some Americans have chosen to focus on dismantling workers’ rights,” King III said. “Dad was killed in that context. He would want us to be engaged in that activity today.”

Labor unions want to frame the debate as a civil rights issue, which could draw sympathy to public workers being blamed for busting state budgets with generous pensions. Arlene Holt Baker, executive vice president of the AFL-CIO, was also in Atlanta for the “We Are One” campaign, which she said also included teach-ins and vigils in dozens of cities nationwide. Standing

near the spot where King and his widow, Coretta Scott King, are buried, Holt Baker said the two movements are linked.

“Dr. King realized and said so often that a path to a just economy, to the middle class, was through labor unions,” she said. “Economic justice was the ultimate fulfillment of his dream.”

The planned rallies are part of a coordinated strategy by labor leaders to ride the momentum of pro-union demonstrations and national polls showing most Americans support collective bargaining rights as Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and other GOP leaders in states fight to reduce or strip those benefits.

Walker has argued that col-

lective bargaining is a budget issue. On Friday, he signed into law a bill the strips nearly all collective bargaining benefits from most public workers, arguing the move will give local governments flexibility in making budget cuts needed to close the state’s \$3.6 billion deficit.

At the rally in Cleveland, about 300 union supporters denounced Ohio Gov. John Kasich and workers vowed to block the bill Kasich signed last week that bans public worker strikes, eliminates binding arbitration and restricts bargaining for 350,000 public employees. U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, D-Ohio, said Republicans are trying to silence workers at the bargaining table.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### 3 more sets of remains found near NY beach

OAK BEACH, N.Y. (AP)—Investigators scouring dense undergrowth for victims of a suspected serial killer along a remote New York beach area found three more sets of remains Monday, authorities said, bringing the total number of bodies to eight. The new remains are in addition to a set found last week along a highway leading to popular Jones Beach, about 45 miles east of New York City. That victim has not been identified, and police have not positively connected it to the bodies of four prostitutes found nearby in December.

#### NASA delays next space shuttle launch by 1 1/2 weeks

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—NASA is delaying its next space shuttle flight—the last voyage of Endeavour with Rep. Gabrielle Giffords’ astronaut husband in charge. The flight was postponed because the original April 19 date conflicts with Russia’s plans to send

a cargo ship to the International Space Station. Endeavour is now scheduled to blast off April 29 with Mark Kelly at the helm. It will be the next-to-last shuttle mission. Shuttle Atlantis will close out the 30-year shuttle program this summer.

#### Reporter finds knife at scene of Ga. killings

ATLANTA (AP)—A newspaper reporter in Atlanta discovered a bloody knife Monday at a home where three people were stabbed to death, prompting police to investigate whether detectives missed a key piece of evidence. Atlanta Journal-Constitution reporter Rhonda Cook said she found the knife—with bright red blood on its blade—under a chair on the front porch, hours after police completed their investigation and removed crime scene tape from the home. She had gone to the neighborhood to interview people about the crime. “There was glass all around the porch, and the knife was laying in the middle of the glass,” Cook said.

# Asia

## Japan nuke plant dumps radioactive water into sea



In this Friday, April 1, 2011 photo released by Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO), a TEPCO employee points at a crack newly discovered in a maintenance pit on the edge of the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant in Okumamachi, Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan.

**TOKYO (AP)**—Workers began pumping more than 3 million gallons of contaminated water from Japan's tsunami-ravaged nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean on Monday, freeing storage space for even more highly radioactive water that has hampered efforts to stabilize the reactors.

It will take about two days to pump most of the less-radioactive water out of the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear complex, whose cooling systems were knocked out by the magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami on March 11.

Radioactivity is quickly diluted in the ocean, and government officials said the dump should not affect the safety of seafood in the area.

Since the disaster, water with different levels of radioactivity has been pooling throughout the plant. People who live within 12 miles (20 kilometers) have been evacuated and have not been allowed to return.

The pooling water has damaged systems and the radiation hazard has prevented workers from getting close enough to power up cooling systems needed to stabilize dangerously vulnerable fuel rods.

On Saturday, they discovered that some radioactive water was pouring into the ocean.

The less-radioactive water that officials are purposely dumping into the sea is up to 500 times the legal limit for radiation.

"We think releasing water with low levels of radiation is preferable to allowing water with high levels of radiation to be released into the environment," said Junichi Matsumoto, an official with plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co.

Workers need to get rid of the highly radioactive water, but first they need somewhere safe to put it. Much of the less-radioactive water being dumped into the sea is from the tsunami and had accumulated in a nuclear waste storage building.

The building is not meant to hold water, but it's also not leaking, so engineers decided to empty it so they can pump in the more-radioactive water. The rest of the water going into the sea is coming from a trench beneath two of the plant's six reactors.

More water keeps pooling because TEPCO has been forced to rely on makeshift methods of bringing down temperatures and pressure by pumping water into

the reactors and allowing it to gush out wherever it can. It is a messy process, but it is preventing a full meltdown of the fuel rods that would release even more radioactivity into the environment.

## Gunmen free child, hold 12 other Filipino hostages

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Armed tribesmen freed a boy after getting food and water Monday but kept at least 12 other hostages in jungle captivity to demand the release of jailed relatives and friends in the southern Philippines, a police official said.

The release of 12-year-old Marvin Jay Corvera encouraged officials to continue negotiating with five Manobo tribesmen for the freedom of the captives snatched at gunpoint Friday and taken to a hilly forest in Prosperidad town in southeastern Agusan del Sur province.

Most of the captives are grade school teachers, but one still being held is a sick 10-year-old girl.

Army and police special forces have been deployed in case the talks collapse.

After a father of one of the hostage-takers delivered food, water and medicine, the gunmen allowed the man to bring

## Dog gets hugs from owner after tsunami rescue

**TOKYO (AP)**—A dog rescued from drifting ocean debris immediately jumped to her owner and wagged her tail at their reunion more than three weeks after Japan's tsunami.

Toshio Suzuki described Monday's reunion at the animal shelter he heads in the tsunami-wrecked Miyagi region of northern Japan. The owner of the 2-year-old mixed breed

named Ban saw Friday's rescue on television.

The woman was not identified for privacy reasons. Suzuki said she has an adult daughter and that the family suffered tsunami damage but was not specific.

Public broadcaster NHK aired images of the reunion with the woman hugging Ban and the dog warmly wagging

her tail.

A coast guard helicopter crew spotted Ban more than a mile (two kilometers) off the tsunami-hit town of Kesennuma in Miyagi. It wasn't known how long the dog had been at sea.

Suzuki says the shelter keeps 19 dogs and several cats separated from their owners after the March 11 tsunami.

"We must keep putting water into the reactors to cool to prevent further fuel damage, even though we know that there is a side effect, which is the leakage," said Hidehiko Nishiyama, a spokesman for Japan's Nuclear Safety and Industrial Agency. "We want to get rid of the stagnant water and decontaminate the place so that we can return to our primary task to restore the sustainable cooling capacity as quickly as possible."

Engineers have been using unusual methods to try to stop the more highly radioactive water leaking into the sea.

They thought it was coming

from a crack in a maintenance pit they discovered Saturday, but an attempt to seal the crack with concrete failed, and clogging it with a special polymer mixed with sawdust and shredded newspapers didn't work, either.

They dumped milky white bath salts into the system around the pit Monday to try to figure out the source of the leak, but it never splashed out into the ocean.

In the meantime, workers plan to install screens made of polyester fabric to try to stop some of the contamination in the ocean from spreading.

Although the government eventually authorized the

dumping of the less-radioactive water, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said officials were growing concerned about the sheer volume of radioactive materials spilling into the Pacific. It is not clear how much water has leaked in addition to what is being dumped purposely.

"Even if they say the contamination will be diluted in the ocean, the longer this continues, the more radioactive particles will be released and the greater the impact on the ocean," Edano said. "We are strongly urging TEPCO that they have to take immediate action to deal with this."

solve it very, very peacefully."

The gunmen sent two hostages to town to get food and water Sunday, threatening to harm the rest of the captives if the men did not return. Authorities, however, did not allow the two men to return for their safety and decided to ask relatives of the hostage-takers to deliver the food, water and medicine for a 10-year-old girl stricken with fever.

Fajura said he talked to the girl, Rein Fe Cabantac, by cellphone late Sunday and was told the gunmen were treating her well. "I'm OK, they covered me with blanket because it's cold and I have fever," he quoted the child as saying.

It is the latest hostage crisis to grip the Philippines in recent years. A hostage-taking of a busload of Hong Kong tourists in Manila last August ended in disaster with the death of eight of the captives, angering China.

The kidnapper—a dismissed policeman who wanted his job back—was shot to death by police commandos.

The Agusan hostage-takers have demanded the release of tribal leader Jobert "Ondo" Perez, who was jailed with three other tribesmen for taking 79 people hostage in 2009 over a long-running clan feud. Officials have told the gunmen a local court was handling the case and promised to take steps to try to speed up its resolution.

Clan feuds, fueled by weak law enforcement in remote regions awash with illegal firearms, have often erupted into deadly clashes, kidnappings and hostage-takings in the southern Philippines. The violence underscores the complexity of security problems in the south, where troops have been battling Muslim and communist insurgents, along with al-Qaida-linked militants, for years.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Protests against women's policy cripple Bangladesh

**DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)**—Police clashed with demonstrators and arrested dozens in Bangladesh as a hard-line Muslim group enforced a paralyzing general strike Monday protesting a new policy giving women equal inheritance rights. The protesters, mostly students of Islamic schools, smashed vehicles and set fire to a fuel station and attacked a convoy of devotees on their way

to an Islamic shrine in southeastern Bangladesh, according to police, news reports and witnesses. Police fired tear gas and used batons to disperse protesters in various parts of the country.

#### Shooter in Afghan uniform kills 2 US personnel

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—A man wearing an Afghan border police uniform shot dead two American military personnel tasked with helping train

members of the country's security forces on Monday, NATO and Afghan officials said. The assailant fled and it was not known whether he was a police officer who turned on his Western counterparts or an insurgent disguising himself in uniform to infiltrate the northern compound and attack from inside. There have been cases of both in Afghanistan, exposing the vulnerability even of foreign trainers involved in preparing Afghan forces to take the lead in battling

the Taliban.

#### Rights group says Tibetan monk dies after torture

**BEIJING (AP)**—A rights group says a Tibetan Buddhist monk tortured after a 2008 protest in China has died of complications from his ordeal. The Washington D.C.-based International Campaign for Tibet says 37-year-old Jamyang Jinpa died Sunday. The group said in a news release late Monday that Jamyang Jinpa had

been recovering at home for the past three years but is believed to have died of internal injuries suffered during his torture.

#### 10 coal miners in northwest China die in explosion

**BEIJING (AP)**—Ten coal miners have been killed in a gas explosion inside their shaft in northwestern China. The official Xinhua News Agency says the explosion Saturday left the shaft outside the Xinjiang regional

capital of Urumqi filled with poisonous gas that had to be pumped out before bodies could be recovered. Xinhua says in Monday's report that the cause of the blast is under investigation, but such explosions are a frequent cause of death in Chinese mines, where proper ventilation and other safety features are often lacking. China's insatiable demand for coal to fuel its economy prompts many mine operators to skirt safety rules to maximize production.

## World

# Final battle rages in Ivory Coast

**ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)**—The United Nations and French forces opened fire with attack helicopters Monday on the arsenal of this country's entrenched ruler, as columns of foot soldiers allied with his challenger finally pierced the city limit.

The fighters aiming to topple strongman Laurent Gbagbo had succeeded in taking nearly the entire countryside in just three days last week, but they faltered once they reached the country's largest city, where the presidential palace and residence are located.

Monday's offensive which included air attacks on the incumbent ruler's home, as well as three strategic military garrisons marked an unprecedented escalation in the international community's efforts to oust Gbagbo, who lost the presidential election in November yet has refused to cede power to Alassane Ouattara even as the world's largest cocoa producer teetered on the brink of all-out civil war. The postelection violence has left hundreds dead—most of them Ouattara supporters—and has forced up to 1 million people to flee. Ouattara has used his considerable international clout to financially and diplomatically suffocate Gbagbo and pro-Ouattara forces before launching a dramatic military assault last week.

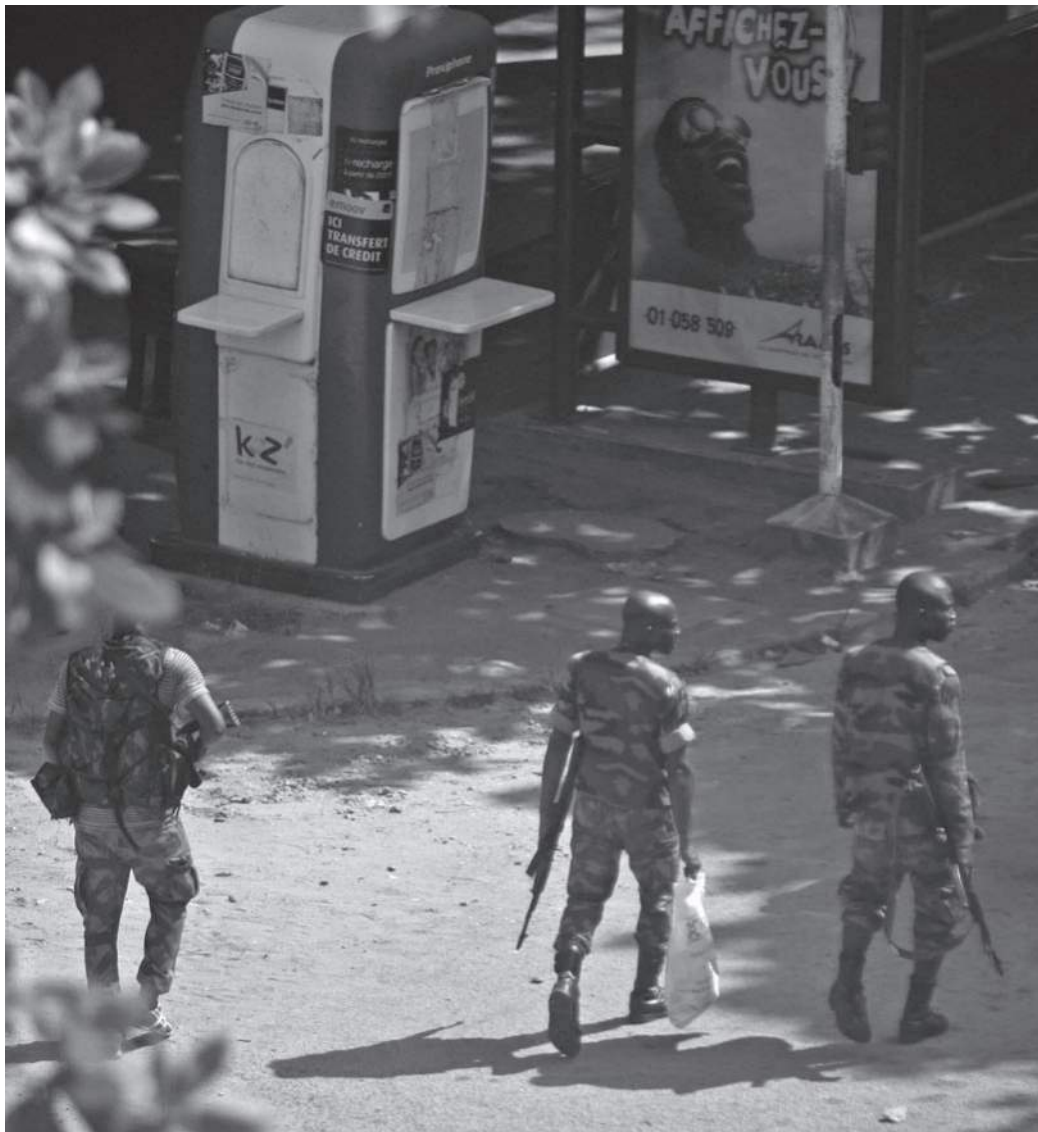
On Monday, the U.N. fired on the Akouedo military base at around 5 p.m. local time (1700 GMT) to prevent Gbagbo's forces from using heavy weapons against civilians, said the spokesman for the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations Nick Birnback.

Explosions resonated from the city's downtown core a few blocks from the presidential palace and near the base of the republican guard, and those living nearby barricaded their windows with mattresses. Flames could be seen licking the sky above the home of the staunchly pro-Gbagbo republican guard.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy said in a statement that he had authorized the 1,600-strong French Licorne force based here to help in the operation following an appeal from U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who said that the use of force was necessary to prevent further attacks on civilians.

"In the past few days, forces loyal to Mr. Gbagbo have intensified and escalated their use of heavy weapons such as mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns against the civilian population in Abidjan," Ban said in a statement.

Ivory Coast gained independence from France in 1960, and some 20,000 French citizens



Unidentified troops walk in the city of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, Monday, April 4, 2011.

still lived there when a brief civil war broke out in 2002. French troops were then tasked by the U.N. with monitoring a ceasefire and protecting foreign nationals in Ivory Coast, which was once an economic star and is still one of the only countries in the region with four-lane highways, skyscrapers, escalators and wine bars.

Following four months of attempts to negotiate Gbagbo's departure, the U.N. Security Council unanimously passed an especially strong resolution giving the 12,000-strong peacekeeping operation the right "to use all necessary means to carry out its mandate to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence ... including to prevent the use of heavy weapons against the civilian population."

Gbagbo has stubbornly refused every olive branch extended to him since last November, when he lost the presidential election to International Monetary Fund economist, Alassane Ouattara. Gbagbo insisted he had won, even though his country's own election commission declared him defeated and the United Nations certified his opponent's victory.

The 65-year-old former history professor dug in, using state television to disseminate historic footage of France's past abuses in Africa, presenting

## Libya rebels push into town they lost twice before

**BREGA, Libya (AP)**—Rebel fighters pushed back into this hard-fought oil town on Monday, seizing half of Brega and pledging to drive out Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's forces in hours in an advance that would open a vital conduit for oil sales by the opposition.

Control of Brega's small refinery and Mediterranean port could significantly boost the rebels' hunt for revenues they can use to purchase heavy weapons for the fight against Gadhafi's better-equipped troops and militiamen.

Lightly armed and loosely organized opposition forces have surged into and beyond Brega several times in recent weeks from their strongholds in eastern Libya, only to be driven out by Gadhafi loyalists exploiting the rebels' inability to hold territory. In recent days the opposition has placed the front lines under the control of former military men, creating a more disciplined advance against Gadhafi's forces.

"We're more organized now, and that's played a big role," said Salam Idrisi, 42, a rebel fighter.

The opposition advanced under artillery fire throughout the day and took the streets of New Brega, a largely residential section separated from the town's oil facilities by a stretch of highway and a university campus,

## Gadhafi's investments

Where Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi has invested his oil wealth in sub-Saharan Africa:

**Mali** Lease 100,000 acres (40,468 hectares) of agricultural land

**Rwanda** Owns the Novotel hotel in Kigali

**Kenya** Owns the Laico Regency hotel in Nairobi

**Uganda** 69 percent stake in Uganda Telecom

**Gabon** Owns 988,421 acre (400,000 hectare) forestry concession

**Kenya, Uganda** Building reverse flow-capable oil pipeline extension from Eldoret, Kenya to Kampala, Uganda

### Regional

- 2,000 OilLibya gas stations in 20 countries
- Afriqiyah Airways provides commercial air service to many West and North African capitals



© 2011 MCT  
Source: McClatchy  
Washington  
Bureau  
Graphic:  
Judy Treible

Ouattara as a foreign puppet, and attempts to install him as an international conspiracy led by France and the U.N. Among the offers he turned down was President Barack Obama's proposal of a history professorship at a Boston university in return for stepping down peacefully.

Just after the U.N. announced their attack, a resident in the Cocody neighborhood where Gbagbo lives in Abidjan said he saw multiple helicopters circling and could hear firing. Others said they heard what sounded like fighter jets.

A senior diplomat who could not be named because of the sensitivity of the matter said that he had a map with blue stickers marking the six strategic points that needed to be taken out, and that five of the six had been hit by the end of the night.

The five include Gbagbo's residence, the republican guard, state TV, the Akban paramilitary base, and the arms depot at Akouedo which he said had been taken out by a United Nations Mi-24 helicopter. A video posted on YouTube showed the depot being bombed. Tracers could be seen exploding from the burning core as Gbagbo's soldiers attempted to shoot down the helicopters.

By evening, state TV had

where the rebels were battling Gadhafi fighters at close range.

"New Brega is under control of our forces and we are mopping up around the university," said Lt. Muftah Omar Hamza, a former member of Libya's air force who had a satellite phone and a GPS around his neck.

The rebels also saw success Monday in their efforts to establish an internationally recognized government in eastern Libya, forging tighter links with Britain and Italy, both potential major markets for Libyan oil.

Italy offered diplomatic recognition to the Libyan opposition council, becoming the third country to do so after France and Qatar. The Italian foreign minister also said the CEO of energy company Eni had visited the rebels' de facto capital, Benghazi, with the aim of resuming oil ties.

Eni has extensive oil facilities in eastern Libya and was Libya's biggest gas exporter and oil producer before the uprising against Gadhafi split the country.

Rajab Sahnoun, a senior official with Arabian Gulf Oil Co., which runs an oil terminal in the eastern city of Tobruk, said the company was waiting for a Liberian tanker but was unsure when it would arrive. He did not say where the oil would be headed.

gone black, suggesting its signal had been wiped out.

"It's all over for Gbagbo—except the shooting," said the ambassador.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Michel 'Sweet Micky' Martelly wins Haiti election

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**—Musician Michel "Sweet Micky" Martelly scored a come-from-behind victory Monday in Haiti's presidential runoff, according to preliminary results from last month's election showing he easily defeated a former first lady for the leadership of a country facing enormous challenges. Martelly, who has never held political office, received nearly 68 percent of the vote in the two-way race with Mirlande Manigat, electoral council spokesman Pierre Thibault said in an announcement that was immediately followed by noisy celebration in the Haitian capital.

#### US-Russian crew blasts off for orbiting station

**BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan (AP)**—A U.S. astronaut and two Russian cosmonauts blasted off Tuesday in pre-dawn darkness, riding into orbit on a Soyuz craft emblazoned with the portrait of the first man in space in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's historic flight. As the Soyuz TMA-21 launched from the Baikonur cosmodrome as scheduled at 4:18 a.m. (2218 GMT), it turned the darkness into broad daylight for several moments and warmed the chilly steppe of Kazakhstan with a bright orange glow. About nine minutes into the flight to the International Space Station, officials announced that the spacecraft had successfully reached orbit.

#### UN confirms 32 of 33 killed in Congo crash

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—Only one person survived among the 33 U.N. personnel and crew members aboard a plane that crashed in Congo on Monday, U.N. officials said. U.N. peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy told reporters he had no detailed information about the sole survivor, who he said was hospitalized after the crash in the Congolese city of Kinshasa. Le Roy said the cause of the crash had not been determined, but investigators were looking at the possibility that windy weather had caused the plane to miss the airstrip. The craft came down next to the air strip and broke up upon landing, he said.

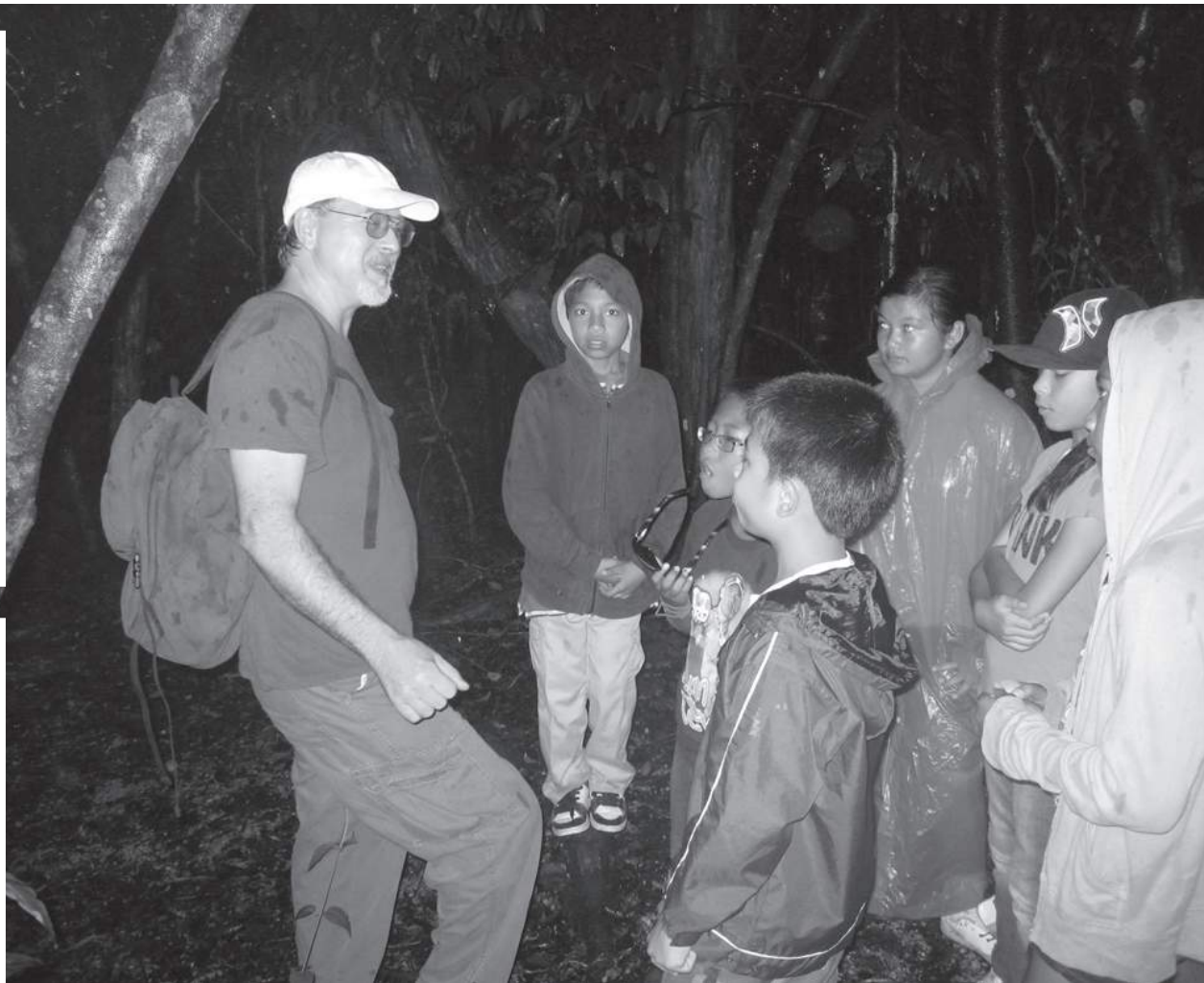
## Campus Life

# Tinian students explore island's old-growth forest



Students view a plant's cell wall and nucleus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In the Limestone Forest, Tinian High School science teacher John Sutfin answers students' questions regarding the forest's unique ecosystem.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Elsalyn Cabrera transfers the shaved specimen onto a glass slide.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Three students help one another prepare slides for viewing under a microscope.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mr. Sutfin guides the learning by assisting a student in adjusting the microscope.

Tinian High School science teacher John Sutfin led a group of budding botanists through the Limestone Forest, an old growth forest untouched by war and sugar cane farming.

Protected from the soaking rain under the forest canopy, the students stayed dry as they explored the forest and collected plant samples.

With their samples, they returned to Sutfin's lab where he instructed the students on how to use microscopes and prepare slides for viewing plant cells. The young botanists were highly enthusiastic and engaged in their morning expedition and hands-on lab activity.

## KES students shine at STEM Fair

Koblerville Elementary School is very proud of all their students who participated during the CNMI Islandwide STEM Fair from March 18 to 20, 2011, at the Marianas High School. School principal Rizalina Purugganan expresses her gratitude to all the parents and to the teachers who supported these students. Six out of seven entries from KES won during the three-day event and two out of five students who won for the overall awards were also from KES.

These are the winners from KES:

■ Overall STEM Fair winners: Keona Rogopes and Hyun Joung Ahn

### 1ST PLACE

■ Keona Rogopes, K-1st, Health and Nutrition

■ Hyun Joung Ahn, 6-8th, Technology and Electronics

■ Achilles Solomon, 3rd-4th, Mathematics

■ Leonard Manuel, 5th-6th, Behavioral and Social Science

### 2ND PLACE

■ Jennifer Napalan, K-1st, Life Science

■ Lizelle Salanga, 6th-8th, Technology

Koblerville Elementary School winners with KES principal Rizalina Purugganan and STEM Fair Committee members from Koblerville Elementary School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Campus Life

## Woman charged in attack on 'evil' Gauguin painting

WASHINGTON (AP)—A woman accused of pounding on a painting by Paul Gauguin and trying to rip it from a wall at the National Gallery of Art told police the post-Impressionist artist was evil and the painting should be burned, court documents show.

Susan Burns, 53, of Arlington, Va., has been charged with attempted second-degree theft and destruction of property following the attack Friday. She was being held without bail pending a mental health hearing Tuesday.

The Gauguin painting, "Two Tahitian Women," valued at an estimated \$80 million, was not damaged and will go back on view Tuesday, the National Gallery said in a statement. The picture is on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for an exhibit titled "Gauguin: Maker of Myth."

The painting depicts two women standing next to each other, one with both breasts exposed and the other with one breast showing.

According to charging documents, an investigator told Burns her rights and asked why she had tried to remove the painting.

"I feel that Gauguin is evil. He has nudity and is bad for the children. He has two women in the painting and it's very homosexual. I was trying to remove it. I think it should be burned," according to the documents.

Burns also said: "I am from the American CIA and I have a radio in my head. I am going to kill you."

Burns' attorney, Sharon Weathers, declined to comment Monday.

Burns approached the painting around 4:45 p.m. Friday, grabbed the frame and pulled the bottom part off the wall, causing screws to fall to the floor, according to the documents. She then began banging on the middle of the painting with her fist.

Burns was quickly apprehended by the museum's federal protection services officers.

The painting was protected by a transparent plastic shield.

It was the first documented case of someone trying to deface a painting at the gallery since the 1970s, spokeswoman Deborah Ziska said. She said the gallery's security procedures worked.

Gauguin (1848-1903), a

Frenchman, first traveled to Tahiti in 1891 and was known for his erotic portraits of local women and for his moral failings—including sexual relation-

## The Onion digitizes archives, area man stoked

NEW YORK (AP)—The satirical paper of record is dipping into its archives.

The Onion will announce Monday that it is publishing digitized versions of all its old print editions. Beginning Monday, TheOnion.com will begin posting a handful of old issues every week for the coming months.

Unearthed headlines include "Canada Signs Nonaggression Pact with the United States," "Dysfunctional Family Brought Together By Liquor" and "Everybody's Eatin' Bread!"

The Onion was founded in 1988 in Madison, Wis., by two students from the University of Wisconsin. Though it began as a local college newspaper, it became a national comedy institution and went online in 1996.

It has since developed a TV news parody, the Onion News Network, that has spawned several TV shows. Its paper is still distributed weekly in cities, but

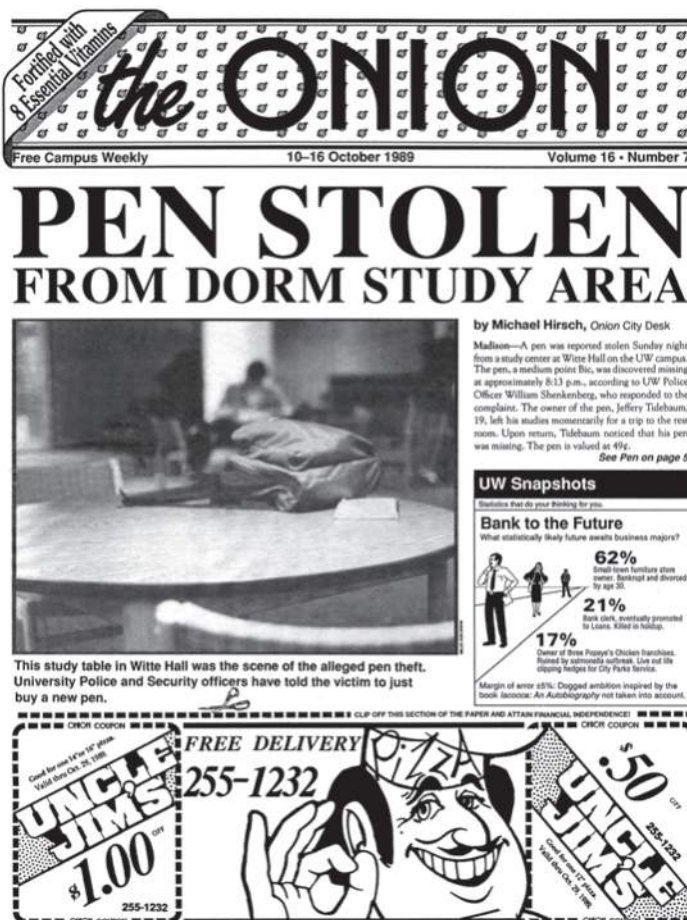
ships with his underage models.

Burns has been arrested several times. She served six months in jail after a 2006 conviction for assault and battery

on a police officer. In 2002, she was convicted of misdemeanor trespassing.

She has also been charged with disorderly conduct, ob-

struction of justice, vandalism and a separate assault on a police officer, but prosecutors declined to pursue those cases, Virginia court records show.



In this cover image released by The Onion, the cover of the Oct. 10-16, 1989 issue of "The Onion," is shown.

it has also embraced Twitter and on Friday launched an app for the iPad and other tablets.

But the archives, which have

previously been published in book collections, show the Onion's humble, black-and-white origins. The early issues show

## Arnie is back, now as animated crime-fighter

CANNES, France (AP)—Well, Arnold Schwarzenegger IS back.

The one-time muscleman who morphed into Hollywood icon and then California governor returns to his on-screen core—sort of—with a cheekily titled animated TV show, "The Governator."

In an interview, the 63-year-old said he wants to surprise fans who expected him to go back to the big screen, shifting to the virtual world with a superhero who gets things done without the constraints of laws or an often-intractable political system.

"I think that a lot of times you can actually do more and accomplish more being outside of the system," he said.

Schwarzenegger spoke to The Associated Press before unveiling details of what he calls a funny, action-packed, crime-fighting fantasy at the MipTV television business conference in the Riviera resort of Cannes. Action Comics giant Stan Lee will be at the show's creative helm.

Schwarzenegger, who will voice the superhero, was the talk of the town Monday: France's culture minister inducted him into

the Legion of Honor and he had his handprints cast in cement for Cannes' star walk.

Three months out of office, current events are still on his mind, from Japan's earthquake disaster to the Arab world turmoil and to environmental and economic troubles in the West.

Still, showbiz is eclipsing politics for now.

"I am not as eager to run for office," he said, lounging in an opulent hotel suite overlooking the Mediterranean. "Entertainment is the important thing right now."

"I am fortunate that I can have a foot in entertainment and a foot in the political arena," he added.

That's where the show comes in: Bridging Schwarzenegger's many personas over the years in a TV project that riffs off his public service, his athletic and acting prowess, and his business savvy.

Think Bruce Wayne—the civilian tycoon behind the Batman mask—but involving a former California governor who assembles a team of whiz kids to fight both crime and natural disasters out of a high-tech lair under his mansion in Brent-

wood, and unbeknownst to his own family upstairs.

Producers of the show, which is to debut next year at locations still being determined, have cobbled together a comic-strip action extravaganza with laser-beam eyes, remote-controlled motorcycles and magic chewing-gum bubbles that change faces for incognito sleuthing. It also has what Schwarzenegger called "speaker spray," which temporarily allows its recipient to converse in foreign languages—among much more gee-whiz gadgetry and imagination.

In short: "It's a superheroic guy" with powers that a real-world governor could only dream of.

"It's kind of like, when you see that you could have fought certain crimes but the system didn't allow you, or there were too many people that had to be asked for permission, by that time, the criminals were gone or the disaster that could have been prevented from happening," Schwarzenegger said. "With this, it's a fantasy world where the governor has extra powers."

### DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

## Nicolas Maratita Calvo

Born on December 6, 1935

Died on March 31, 2011 at Rota Health Center

#### In his new life, he now joins:

Wife: Consolation Taimanao Calvo

Parents and Parents In-Law: Jose Ayuyu Calvo, Clara Maratita Calvo, Beatrice Kisa Calvo, Leonardo M. Taimanao & Maria Charfaurous Taimanao

Brothers: Jose M. Calvo, Roberto Hocog Calvo

Stepsisters, Brothers & their Spouses: Ignacio Kisa Mesngon & Carmen C. Mesngon, Josepha Mesngon Manglona, Antonio Kisa Mesngon

Sisters/Brothers in-laws: Jose Rios Ayuyu, Faustina T. Sablan, Maria T. Mereb, Donicio M. Ogo & Rufina T. Ogo

#### He is survived;

By his children & their spouses: Leonardo T. Calvo; Jose T. Calvo & Patricia B. Calvo (children: Joeweda Ann C. Diaz & John Paul B. Diaz; Nicolas B. Calvo & Doris T. Calvo)

Brothers & Stepsisters & their spouses: Isaac Maratita Calvo & Fidelia M. Calvo; Vito Kisa Calvo & Kathy R. Calvo; John Kisa Calvo & Doris M. Calvo; Vicente A. Lizama & Solidad Mesngon Lizama; Felix T. Manglona, Corona Mundo Calvo, Maria King Mesngon.

Brothers in-laws and their spouses: Peter Johnson & Pilar Taimanao Johnson, Lucia T. Ayuyu, Ramona T. Mantanane & Aquiline Semena, Ramon Masga Sablan, Vicente Charfaurous Taimanao and John Mereb.

Three great grand children, numerous nieces and nephews.

Daily Mass of Intentions is being offered 6 AM at San Francisco De Borja Church, and at 7 PM at San Isidro Church.

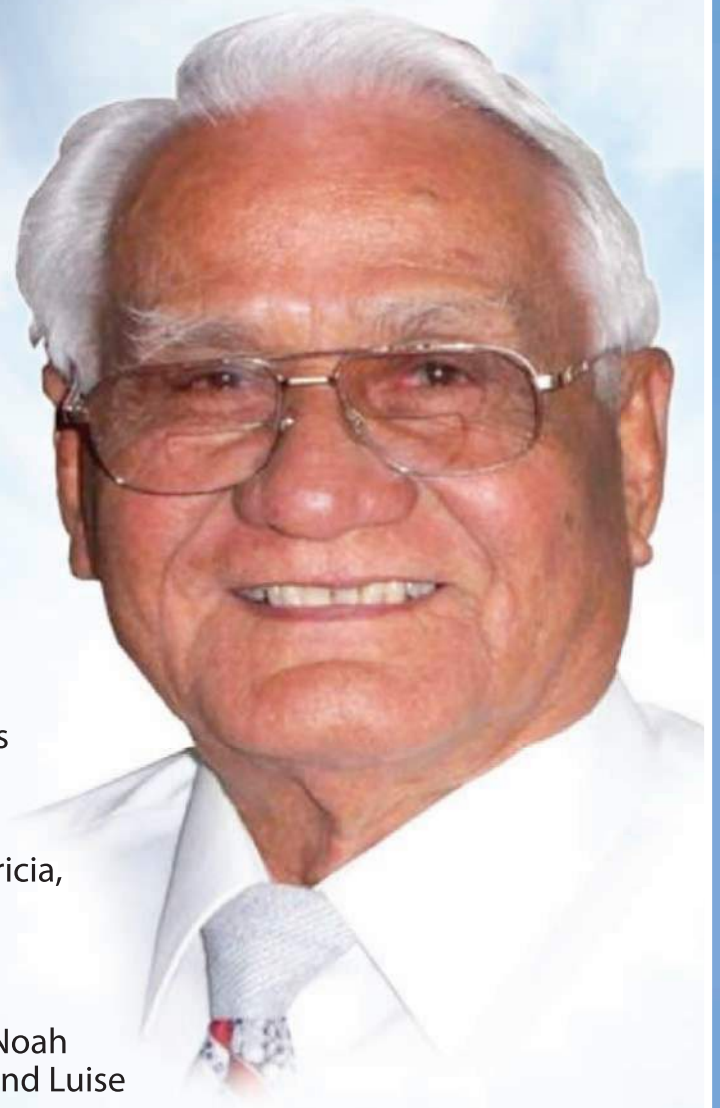
The body of Nicolas will be escorted from the Rota Health Center to the San Francisco De Borja Church on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 7:00 AM for viewing, and the Mass of Christian burial will commence at 9:00 AM.

*In Loving Memory*

# MANUEL SEMAN VILLAGOMEZ

January 24, 1924 – April 1, 2011

also known as Manet Kiyu or Tan Ne', passed away on Friday, April 1, 2011 at his home in Fina Sisú, Saipan, surrounded by his children and grandchildren. He was the loving husband of the late Luise San Nicolas Pangelinan Villagomez.



His memories will live in the hearts of his children and family:

**Linda V. and Felix B. Cepeda** – Charles and Cathy (Cyji and Charles Pablo); Joaquin and Charlotte (Erik and Mele'Ani); Juliet and Earl (Julinda); Tonia and Rodney (Andrew, Blake, Clayton and Damon)

**Patricia V. and Juan B. Cepeda** – Chris and Deveyanne (David, Patricia, and Chris II); John and Cande (†Catricia, Shawn, Zohn, and Ian); James and Cheryl (Rebecca and †Luden); Paulina and Eldred (Noelani and Damian)

**Thomas P. and Virginia C. Villagomez** – Thomas Peter and Irene (Noah and Kylie); Tasha and Alexander (Tamme); †Manuel; Frank; †John; and Luise

**Barbara V. and Joseph D. Wesley** – Walter and Roselynn (Walter Jr., Augustine, Vincent, RayeAnn and Ryan); Jason and Gina (Mercedes: Jacob, Rhasheem, Jesse, Jason, Mandi); Timothy and Rowena (Timothy, Brandon, and Aiden); and Manuel (AlanaJo)

**Manuel P. Villagomez** – Meagan and Nathan (Devin and Nathan); Derek; Niki; and Herman

†**Maria P. Villagomez**

†**Joseph P. Villagomez and Sylvia Geda** – Luise and Patrick (Zoe Rae, Tihanna, Patrick Jr., Vaughn Joseph); Merced; Joseph; and Hana Geda;

**Edward P. Villagomez and Eugenia H. Salas** – Edward Jr. (Dayana); Cassandra and Alejandro (Liana); Matthew; Ysabell; Christina; Gabriella; and Patricia

**David P. Villagomez, Glenn K. Yim, and Randy P. King** – Maria

**Nora V. and Raymond Dlg. Borja** – Ryann; Carmen; and Rachel

**John Lee P. and Jeannette T. Villagomez** – John; Jonah; Joshua and Jehnifer

**Ramona V. and John A. Manglona** – Dencio and Savana

**Antonia V. and Jerome Jerome** – Hope

**Reared daughter: †Bernadita B. Mendiola** – Martha (Donaven, Ava), Elena and Magic (Elicia), Donald and Yuko (Nalu), and Steven

He is reunited with his:

**Parents:** Manuel Castro and Antonia Seman Villagomez

**Parents-in-law:** Jose Wilson and Maria San Nicolas Pangelinan

**Siblings and Spouses:** Joaquin S. and Felicidad Kapileo Villagomez, Ana S. Villagomez, Jesus S. and Joaquina Tenorio Villagomez, Jose S. and Antonia Tenorio Villagomez, Rita V. and Joaquin P. Tenorio, Vicente S. and Rosalia Castro Villagomez, Juan S. and Susana Camacho Villagomez

**Brothers and Sisters In-laws:** Rosa S. and Eulogio Sablan, Guadalupe P. and Blas Tenorio, Francisco S. and Dolores I. Pangelinan, Candido and Priscilla Pangelinan, Juan SN. and Rosalia S. Pangelinan, Manuel SN. and Victorina M. Pangelinan, Herbert and Ignacia M. San Nicolas, Juanita P. and Frank Meglich

Daily mass is being offered at Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m. and nightly rosary at 7:00 p.m. His remains will be escorted from Borja's Funeral Home to Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 8, 2011. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:00 p.m. followed by interment at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

**Please join us in prayers. Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase from the family.**



# Life & Style

## Sheen gets cheers, not boos in second stop on tour

**C**HICAGO (AP)—This time, Charlie Sheen's stage show began and ended with a standing ovation.

Sheen changed up the format for his 20-city road show after bombing in Detroit, using a master of ceremonies who asked the former "Two and a Half Men" star questions during Sunday night's performance in Chicago. Sheen ditched the rapper, the long monologue and the videos that were part of the Detroit show that had people leaving in droves Saturday night.

The changes seem to have helped. Audience members said the second performance on Sheen's "My Violent Torpedo of Truth/Defeat is not an Option" tour wasn't stellar, but it at least had some amusing moments. And the crowd at the 3,600-seat Chicago Theatre stayed for the entire performance and continued to cheer Sheen throughout.

Mackenzie Barth, 19, said the sold-out show was "weird," but that "at least no one was booing," referring to the reaction Sheen received in Detroit, where audience members chanted "refund" and headed for the exits even before the show abruptly ended.

Those attending the Chicago performance acknowledged they had low expectations going in after hearing the brutal reviews of the inaugural performance, which had started with thunderous applause.

"We figured we'd try it out and see what happens, and if it's bad, we'll leave," said Katie Iglehart, 23, of Chicago, who was attending the show with a friend.

But the talk show-style format kept Sheen from meandering and gave him the chance to make some of the snarky comments that have made him an Internet star since his falling out with CBS and the producers of "Two and a Half Men." Sheen, 45, smoked cigarettes as he talked about his marriages, his career and his life with the women he calls his "goddesses"—a former porn star and an actress who live with him—as he answered question from an interviewer who did not identify himself.

Asked how many times he had been married, Sheen retorted, "Seven-thousand. That's why I'm broke."

Asked why he's "paid for sex" in the past, Sheen responded, "Because I had millions to blow. I ran out of things to buy."

Overall, he seemed to have a better rapport with the Chicago



Actor Charlie Sheen looks towards a projection image of "Two and a Half Men" during his performance at the Fox Theatre in Detroit, Saturday, April 2, 2011.

go crowd. As the show began, some began chanting "Detroit sucks." Early on, Sheen urged the audience in an obscenity-laced statement "not to become (expletive) Detroit tonight. Let's show Detroit how it's (expletive) done." Later, when the interviewer asked Sheen when he had started "winning," the actor responded, "The winning started in (expletive) Chicago."

Ellen Olson, who was wearing a black T-shirt with Sheen's catchphrase "Winning!" in white across the front, said she enjoyed the performance.

"I think he interacted with the audience a lot, which made it more funny," said Olson, 55, of Elmwood Park.

Sheen has made headlines in recent years as much for his drug use, failed marriages, custody disputes and run-ins with the police, as for his acting. Martin Sheen has compared his son's struggle with addiction to a cancer patient's struggle for survival.

In August, the wayward star pleaded guilty in Aspen, Colo., to misdemeanor third-degree assault after a Christmas Day altercation with his third wife, Brooke Mueller. The couple have since finalized their divorce.

Charlie Sheen's behavior, which included lashing out at "Two and a Half Men" producer Chuck Lorre, finally became too much for Warner Bros. Television, which fired him March 7.

Sheen fired back with a \$100 million lawsuit and all-out media assault in which he informed the world about his standing as a "rock star from Mars" with "Adonis DNA."

## A Brand new twist on 'Arthur'

By RAFER GUZMAN  
NEWSDAY

**NEW YORK**—If you have fond memories of the 1981 comedy "Arthur," that says a couple of things about you. One, you've been around for at least 40 years, and two, you're probably curious about the remake, which arrives in theaters Friday.

Much has changed since Dudley Moore first appeared as Arthur Bach, the merrily alcoholic heir to a family fortune who must agree to an arranged marriage or forfeit his millions. Liza Minnelli starred as the charming waitress who catches his eye; John Gielgud won a supporting actor Oscar as Arthur's long-suffering butler, Hobson; and Christopher Cross earned an Oscar for his song "Arthur's Theme," which topped the Billboard charts.

The new version, co-starring Russell Brand as Arthur and Helen Mirren as Hobson, has many of the same basic ingredients as the original, including the New York City setting and several lines of dialogue that keen-eared fans will recognize. But there also are major updates that reveal how much has changed over the decades, from our taste in actors to our attitudes about alcohol.

Here's how the two "Arthurs" stack up.

### ■ A BELOVED BRIT COMEDIAN

Back in 1981, America's pet Brit was the short, cuddly Moore, who had just scored a resounding success as the star of the sex farce



BARRY WETCHER/WARNER BROS. PICTURES/MCT Pictures' romantic comedy "Arthur."

"10." Today the U.S. has fallen for the lanky and much edgier Brand. Where Moore played Arthur as an overgrown kid, Brand turns him into a debauched playboy who keeps popping up in the tabloids—a little less Peter Pan, a little more Charlie Sheen.

### ■ THE QUIRKY LOVE INTEREST

Minnelli, who oozes Hollywood royalty, was an unusual choice to play Linda Marolla, a character dismissed as "the nobody from Queens." These days, there's a whole sub-tier of offbeat, plain-but-pretty actresses, from Ellen Page to Maggie Gyllenhaal. In the new "Arthur," Linda is renamed Naomi and played by Greta Gerwig, an indie-world It Girl whose credits include "Greenberg" and "Baghead." Her Naomi is an aspiring children's book author.

### ■ THE SHOTGUN MARRIAGE

Before she became Ann Kelsey on NBC's "L.A. Law," Jill Eikenberry

played Susan Johnson, a bland, humorless rich girl who wants to turn Arthur into a responsible adult. (Susan: "A real woman could stop you from drinking." Arthur: "Hafta be a real big woman.") The new Susan is a much more aggressive character, played by Jennifer Garner as a ladder-climbing businesswoman who wants Arthur's name, not his heart.

### ■ THE SNOOTY BUTLER

The two Hobsons, Mirren and Gielgud, have some similarities: Each served with the Royal Shakespeare Company and earned an Oscar. But while Gielgud played the role as a staunch elitist ("Usually one must go to a bowling alley to meet a woman of your stature," he tells Minnelli's Linda), Mirren gives Hobson a little more grit. In an encounter with Evander Holyfield, she threatens to bite off his other ear.

### ■ THE MONEY

How rich was Arthur Bach in 1981? As he put it, "I wish I had a dime for every dime I had." His

## Sheen spoofs himself in a new online video

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Charlie Sheen is spoofing his famous "20/20" appearance in a new online video. Uploaded to YouTube over the weekend, the seven-minute parody intercuts his newly taped responses with questions posed by ABC News correspondent Andrea Canning in the widely viewed interview that aired last month.

As Canning is seen repeatedly asking Sheen if he's on drugs and when he last used them, the former "Two and a Half Men" star makes fun of his various catch phrases, his many slogan-embossed T-shirts and his nicotine habit. At one point, he poses with cigarettes jamming his nostrils and both ears.

The wacky video had been viewed more than 140,000 times by Monday afternoon.

Sheen began a multi-city concert tour Saturday. He'll appear in Cleveland on Tuesday.

actual net worth was \$750 million, which would have put him solidly within the Forbes 400 list (published for the first time in 1982). Last year's list included billionaires only, yet the new film ups Arthur's fortune only a tad, to \$950 million. Why? It may be to keep Arthur likable, and distance him from today's widely villainized, super-rich Wall Streeters.

### ■ THE MUSIC

Surely you haven't forgotten—though you may have tried—Cross' easy-listening hit "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)," with its refrain about being caught between the moon and New York City. The song returns, this time covered by retro-soul favorites Fitz and the Tantrums. As is increasingly common in movies, the entire soundtrack is peppered by pop songs: You'll hear Mark Ronson, Ben Gibbard of Death Cab for Cutie and Australian R&B singer Daniel Merriweather.

### ■ THE DRINKING

As Moore's Arthur slurred his words and tripped over hedges, few seemed to care that the film portrayed chronic drunkenness as a source of comedy. The new version tackles the issue differently. Perhaps nodding to Brand's own well-publicized substance abuse, his Arthur attends Alcoholics Anonymous. It's not entirely dead serious: At the first meeting he grumbles, "It's like un-happy hour."

### ■ THE CHAUFFEUR

The role of Bitterman originally was played by Ted Ross, who was black. Now Arthur's dutiful driver is played by Luis Guzman, who is Puerto Rican. Maybe things haven't changed much after all.

# Rowling looking into Harry Potter e-books

**LONDON (AP)**—J.K. Rowling stirred a publishing phenomenon with her “Harry Potter” books. Can she do it again on the e-book market?

The best-selling author is considering making the fantasy books available electronically, her London-based agent said Monday—meaning that Potter fans may soon be able to download the popular series about a boy wizard to their Kindle or iPad.

“We are currently actively looking at all the various options for Harry Potter in this

space, that is e-books,” Neil Blair, of the Christopher Little Literary Agency, said in an e-mail.

Rowling has sold about 450 million copies of the Harry Potter books worldwide, according to Blair. She has allowed digital audio downloads, but is one of the most famous authors who have stayed away from the e-book market, frustrating parts of her fan-base that have converted to the new format.

Some say the Potter books—which are up to 800 pages thick—are heavy and un-

wieldy, and publishing them in the electronic format will make them easier to carry around.

Some reports say Rowling is holding out because she is concerned about piracy issues. Harry Potter books are now available for download digitally from illegal websites.

Blair said Rowling has never spoken out against e-books—instead she been watching the developing market and waiting for the right moment to release her books in that format.

## Alley takes a tumble on ‘Dancing with the Stars’



In this publicity image released by ABC, actress Kirstie Alley, left, and her partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy perform on the celebrity dance competition series, “Dancing with the Stars,” Monday, March 28, 2011 in Los Angeles.

## Will, Jaden Smith reunite for sci-fi tale

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Will Smith and son Jaden are teaming up again on the big-screen.

The two last starred together in the 2006 drama “The Pursuit of Happiness.” They will work together in an as-yet-untitled science-fiction adventure for Columbia Pictures, a unit of Sony Corp.

M. Night Shyamalan is directing and co-writing the movie starring the 42-year-old father and his 12-year-old son. Shyamalan also directed “The Sixth Sense” and “The Last Airbender.”

Sony said Monday that the movie centers on a boy struggling to save himself and his estranged father after their ship crashes on an abandoned Earth a thousand years in the future.

As they did on their son’s 2010 hit, “The Karate Kid,” Will and Jada Pinkett Smith will be producers on the new movie.



In this July 15, 2010 file photo, actors Jaden Smith, left, and his father Will Smith arrive for the gala premiere of the film Karate Kid in London.

## Bee Gees’ Robin Gibb ill, cancels Brazil shows

**LONDON (AP)**—Bee Gees singer Robin Gibb has canceled a series of shows in Brazil after he was taken to a British hospital with abdominal pains.

A spokesman for the singer says Gibb suddenly fell ill early Sunday, and that doctors have told him not to travel while they diagnose the problem.

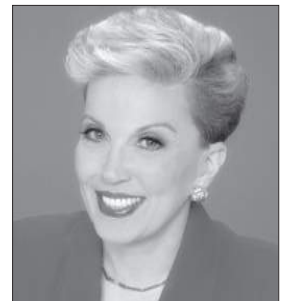
The 61-year-old Gibb had to cancel traveling to Brazil for concerts in cities such

as Sao Paulo and Brasilia. He also had to postpone a planned meeting with Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff.

The singer underwent surgery for a blocked intestine last year, but his spokesman said Monday he has been in good health since then. Gibb’s twin brother Maurice died in 2003 at the age of 53 due to complications from a twisted intestine.

## Attraction to other women stops man short of altar

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been dating a wonderful woman I’ll call “Shannon” for a year and a half. She has most things that I want in a partner, and I often feel she’s better than I deserve. We’re in our early 30s, and Shannon is saying she will soon need some kind of idea where we are going in the future.

I’m having trouble with the notion of committing to her forever because I’m still attracted to other women. (I haven’t been involved with anyone else since starting to date her.) More worrisome, I’m afraid I’ll meet someone I’m more attracted to a few years down the road.

How can I be sure that Shannon will make me happier than anyone else I might meet in the future?

CONFLICTED IN WASHINGTON STATE

**DEAR CONFLICTED:** You say Shannon has “most” things you want in a partner. Yet I sense that you’re not as physically attracted to her as you think you should be. If this woman does not appeal to you, then face it—she’s not for you.

Of course, regardless of how attractive one’s partner is, there are no guarantees that anyone—male or female—won’t meet someone who is different and appealing at some point in the future. But those who are mature and committed usually realize they have enough invested emotionally in their marriage and children that they can resist temptation. It’s called being an adult.

**DEAR ABBY:** At least once a week my boss and I drive together from our office to meetings throughout town. She always insists on driving. My problem is, she drives erratically and I often feel in danger with her behind the wheel. Not only does she swerve in and out of lanes without signaling, she is often talking on her cell phone (which is not illegal in our state).

I’d be happy to drive. I have a comfortable, reliable car and a safe driving history. I have offered, “I’d be glad to drive so you’ll be free to give your full attention to important phone calls.” None of my efforts has worked.

I don’t want to be rude or insulting -- and certainly don’t want to create an awkward situation with my boss—but I don’t want to keep putting myself at risk with her terrible driving. I’d be grateful for some advice.

RIDING SHOTGUN IN MIAMI

**DEAR RIDING SHOTGUN:** It’s time for another—more direct—chat with your boss. You should not have to worry every time you get into a car with her that you might not arrive in one piece. Tell her: “When you talk on the phone while you drive, it makes me very nervous. I’m concerned about my safety as well as the safety of others when you do it. If you don’t want me to drive so you can make your calls, I will meet you at our destination.”

**DEAR ABBY:** After her second mammogram in 10 years, my mother-in-law now needs a double mastectomy. An annual mammogram would have caught it early enough to prevent its spread.

Since I have trouble remembering when it has been a year since my last exam, I decided to schedule my annual exam on my birthday. Now I will always remember when it’s time for my annual gift to myself—preventive health care.

ANNUAL ALISON IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR ANNUAL ALISON:** That’s an excellent suggestion. Associating annual medical exams with a holiday—like Valentine’s Day—would be another.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

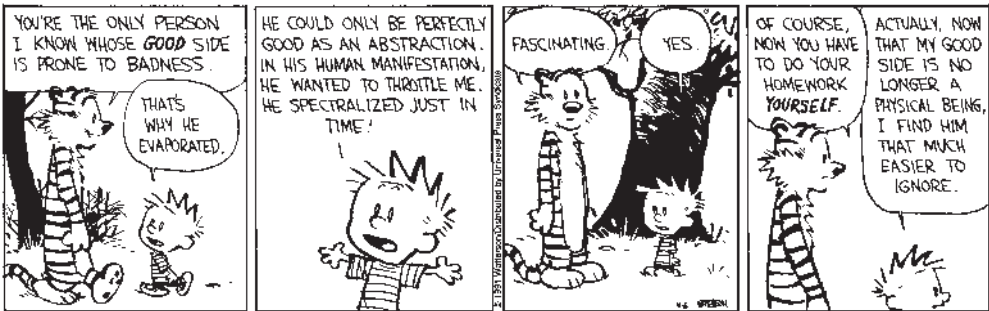
*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.*

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

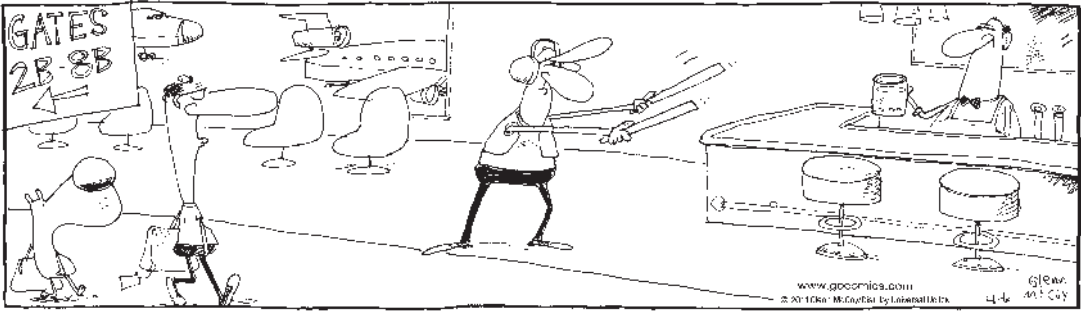
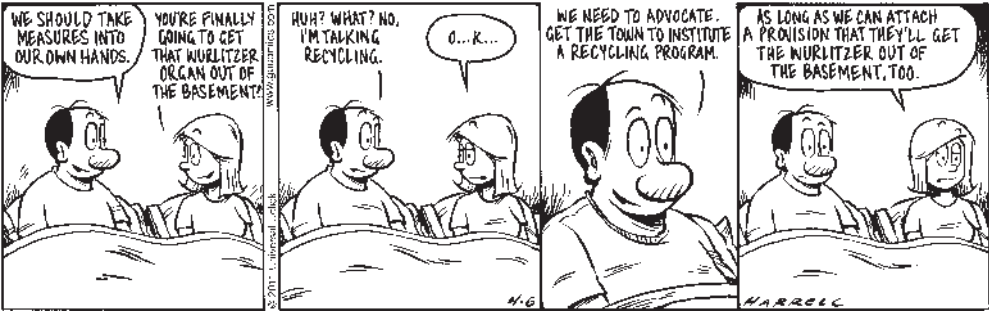
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

25 Coffee shop down

41 Chow down

14 Little lice

15 Pig-pen

19 Commercials

20 A billion years

21 Elongate vowels, maybe

22 Illiterate

23 Worms, often

24 "The Satanic Verses"

25 Boom times

26 Disasters

28 Say

29 Travelocity mascot

30 Beezer

31 Not "fer"

32 1960s hallucinogen

34 Duel tool

35 "My Friend —"

DOWN

1 Lassoed

2 Alternatives to 401(k)s

3 More than just odd

4 Corn

5 Cats' bailiwick

6 Commotion

7 Color quality

8 With fervor

9 Parka

10 AAA job

12 Silliness

11 Under the weather

13 Binary array

16 Marry "— Fire"

17 Poet James Whitcomb

18 Pensioned (Abbr.)

19 Bohemian

20 Simple

21 Guys

23 Penniless

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-6

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Candace Cameron Bure, 35; Zach Braff, 36; Paul Rudd, 42; John Ratzenberger, 64

**Happy Birthday:** Trying to do too much is always your downfall. Size up your situation and be real about your expectations. High energy, coupled with desire and opportunity, will help you maintain and encourage growth. Aggressive action will bring greater productivity. Your numbers are 3, 12, 16, 22, 27, 30, 47

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Question your direction and consider your options. Knowing that you aren't stuck in one place should make your decision easier. A challenge will get you moving toward goals you may not have considered in the past. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Be sure to be fully aware of any repercussions that may develop should you make a mistake. Allow everyone a chance to voice an opinion before you push your plans. For now, put your effort into being the best you can be. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Change your direction or make a move that will raise your standard of living. Avoid anyone who is difficult to get along with or who hasn't been honest with you in the past. Serious work and effort will be required. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You'll have to hold your ground, especially if someone is trying to persuade you to get involved in a deal requiring a financial contribution. You are better off investing in learning or in picking up a new skill. \*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Put your feelings aside and finish what needs to be done. You cannot let personal problems slow you down. You can make changes that will ensure better times but not before you catch up with jobs that take precedence. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You'll have some cost-effective ideas that can turn your home into a much better place to entertain and get work accomplished. Be sure you are prepared to deal with any personal matters that can change your current status. \*\*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll be feeling anxious if you have fallen behind. Indecisiveness can cost you financially. Stress will be at the root of all your problems. Do everything in your power to eliminate whatever is weighing you down personally or financially. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Talk about your feelings. You will come to an understanding that will surprise you and the person who concerns you. Changes at home may be difficult at first but, once you get started, you will see how favorably everything unfolds. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't let someone else's uncertainty rain on your parade. Go after what you want and settle for nothing less. The changes you make at home will benefit you personally and professionally. Larger quarters or someone new in your life will bring you great joy. \*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't give away too many of your secrets until you are positive you can trust the people

**EUGENIA LAST**

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

you are sharing information with. Stick close to home. Problems while traveling or dealing with outsiders or organizations with a different belief system can be expected. \*\*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** It's time to put the past behind you and face your emotions head on. Once you realize what you want out of life, you will be able to set your goals and follow through until you reach your destination. You have the strength and tenacity needed. \*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Revamp your look and lift your spirits. Upgrading is necessary in today's society, so get a makeover or sign up for a self-improvement seminar. Do whatever it takes to raise your self-esteem and pamper your tired mind, body and soul. \*\*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You will always find a way to get what you want. You have a good eye for quality. You act quickly and speak succinctly.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/106

Difficulty Level \*\*

4/6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	1	6	5	2	8	4	9	7
2	7	4	9	6	1	8	5	3
9	5	8	4	7	3	1	6	2
8	6	2	1	9	7	3	4	5
5	9	7	6	3	4	2	1	8
1	4	3	2	8	5	6	7	9
4	3	5	8	1	9	7	2	6
7	2	1	3	5	6	9	8	4
6	8	9	7	4	2	5	3	1

**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHATEAU D'YQUEM Solution: 9 letters

O T D E Z I T Y R T O B Y C S  
E C E F I N E S T Y S D T I E  
S D C E V W L I E A E N I T V  
E C A A W E O B M C E A U R A  
C I D M B S L O A Y N A R U R  
N T E A C O R N D R M A F S G  
A O L K R A T R D E R U R O R  
L X I E R E P X S M N E L F O  
A E M T R O U S A E H D L P W  
B O D E C A C H U E S I T T  
P O B N E E O O C L Q A S H  
E M T D O G L T M U E R C A A  
A N R T A R A L O E I S H O G  
R O I N L R I R O P T A S T E  
B S Y W E E K G S C E N T E D

© 2011 Universal Jick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 4/6

Aged, Amber, Aromas, Balances, Barrel, Bordeaux, Botrytized, Bottle, Capsules, Cases, Citrus, Collection, Comet, Gork, Dark, Decade, Decanter, Exotic, Finest, France, Fruity, Gironde, Gold, Graves, Growth, Hectare, Labels, Liquor, Made, Mahogany, Pear, Plum, Pomerol, Rich, Scented, Spirit, Sweet, Taste, Toast, Tobacco, Wine, Wooden, Years

Yesterday's Answer: Floors

Wonderword can be ordered by sending a check or money order for \$15.00 to: Wonderword, 11300 S. 26th Ave., Suite 100, Aurora, CO 80014. (303) 682-8443. Description of puzzle.

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for water truck, 3k to 3.5k gals/cap. Must be in good cond. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317 look for Jeremy or Norma

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Local Reggae Band seeking musicians: looking for drummer, pianist & whatever sounds good. All musicians welcome to audition. Contact John 789-8329

WHATZIT Solution: Up a blind alley

**BUSH CUTTER REPAIR**  
Only **\$30 Service Promo**  
**We buy & sell used bush cutters.**  
**For lawnmower small engine**  
**Please call 233-5641**  
Open: 7 Day a Week • 8:00 AM-9:00 PM

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Job Vacancy No. 11-026 Opening Date: Tuesday, 04/05/11 Closing Date: Thursday, 04/07/11

**HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST**

**DUTIES:** Under the overall supervision of the division manager or his/her designee, examples of the incumbent's duties and responsibilities: Processes paperwork and performs duties related to the implementation of a human resources programs such as training, recruitment, benefits and wellness programs. Prepares a wide variety of memoranda, letters and other correspondence and reports. Provides and interprets a wide variety of information related to programs, policies and procedures. Collects data in order to assess needs of employees and departments. Notifies supervisor of important issues. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

**LOCATION:** Human Resource Office, Saipan

**SALARY:** \$25,000.00 to \$31,069.00 per annum; Un-graded, Un-classified.

**POSITIONS:** One.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Associate Degree in Human Resources or a related field and two years of human resources support experience. **Knowledge of:** Applicable legislation and regulations; Familiarity with employee and employer rights; Human resources issues and concerns. **Skills in:** Reviewing and interpreting policies and procedures; Developing and maintaining personal relationships; Gathering, collecting and assessing data; Making recommendations for promotions and changes; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. **APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.**

Applications may be picked up at the Human Resource Office located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building or the Tinian and Rota Administration Office. Failure to provide required documents listed on the application will be grounds for disqualification.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



*"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"*

22 years of making wishes of eligible children with life-threatening illnesses come true!



Visit us at  
865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza  
Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913  
Tel: (671) 649-WISH  
Fax: (671) 646-6293  
Email: mawfsguam@ite.net  
www.wish.org  
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

**CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

**CLASSIFIED LINER ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	<b>\$15</b>	<b>\$27</b>
• 5-Liner	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$39</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$42</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$36</b>	<b>\$57</b>

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE**

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

**CANCELLATION**

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

**REFUNDS**

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

**CHECK YOUR ADS**

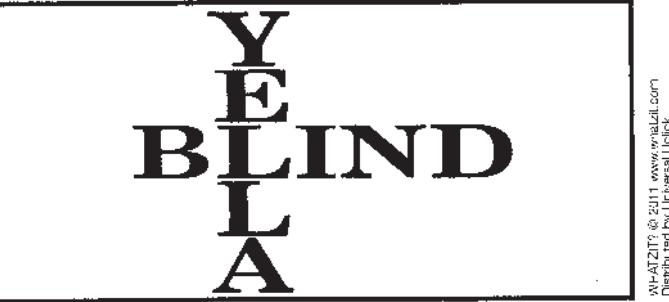
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

**ADVERTISING POLICY**

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

**Minor wins doubles in Australia**  
By ROSELYN B. MONROY  
roselyn\_monroy@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**Sablan, other delegates come out swinging as 112th Congress starts**  
By JAYVEE VALLEJERA  
jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com  
EDITOR

**Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper**  
**Please call 235-NEWS**

**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 2011  
www.saipantribune.com 50¢

**REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK**  
WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Weather Channel predicted near-freezing weather for Jan. 5, the day the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress was to be sworn in. What D.C. got was a blindingly sunny day, with a few clouds to mar the brilliant blue sky.

**OPINION METER**  
This week's poll:  
Are you in favor of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's plan to redefine public service and "reduce" government?  
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

**INSIDE**

# Rodman, Mullin lead 2011 Hall of Fame class



HOUSTON (AP)—Dennis Rodman earned plenty of labels during his sometimes turbulent NBA career.

Here's one the player who created chaos on—and sometimes off—the court never expected: Hall of Famer. Rodman headlined the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame's 2011 class announced on Monday at the Final Four, a group that includes former Dream Team member Chris Mullin and Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer.

"It's just unreal," Rodman said.

And somewhat unexpected, at least to the two-time NBA Defensive Player of the Year and five-time NBA champion who believed his extracurricular activities—including donning a wedding dress to marry himself and kicking a photographer in the groin—would overshadow his on-the-court accomplishments.

"I looked at the way I am, and I thought I wouldn't get in," Rodman said.

Also part of the class were: coaches Tex Winter, innovator of the triangle offense, and Philadelphia University's Herb Magee; longtime NBA and ABA star Artis Gilmore; former Portland Trail Blazers center Arvydas Sabonis; Olympic gold medalist Teresa Edwards; Harlem Globetrotter Reece "Goose" Tatum; and Boston Celtic Tom "Satch" Sanders.

Winter refined the triangle offense and helped the Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Lakers win nine NBA championships as an assistant to Phil Jackson. He retired following the 2006 season, capping a career that included a successful stint at Kansas State, where he led the Wildcats to two Final Fours.

Winter learned the triangle while playing for Sam Barry at USC in the 1940s then spent decades tweaking it. The system focused on sharing the ball and allowed Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen to flourish with the Bulls. He later followed Jackson to the Lakers, where the triangle let Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal cohabitate successfully on their way to three straight titles.

When informed of the honor last week, Rodman thought it was a prank. He figured there was no way the voters could get past his outlandish antics and focus on a career in which he became one of the best rebounders in league history.

"They looked past all the negativity and thought 'wow, he actually did change the game a little bit,'" said Rodman, who averaged 13.1 rebounds a game while playing for five teams. "I wasn't a good scorer. I wasn't the best athlete. But I was part of the machine."

Even if he sometimes drew more headlines for his wardrobe than his ability to chase down missed shots at a remarkable rate. Rodman didn't disappoint on Monday. While the rest of the inductees for the announcement donned suits for the occasion, he wore sneakers, jeans, a black ballcap, shades, tan vest with leopard and tan scarves, and his white shirt with gold sequined cuffs was unbuttoned and knotted at the waist, a la Julia Roberts in "Pretty Woman."

Expect something off the wall when the class is formally inducted in Springfield, Mass., in August. Rodman said his personal designer is going to



The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame class pose with their jerseys during the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame class announcement, Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston. Recipients, from left, are Tom Sanders, Dennis Rodman, Chris Mullin, Herb Magee, Artis Gilmore and Mannie Jackson representing Reece Tatum.

"make a lot of crazy stuff."

Mullin, a five-time All-Star and St. John's all-time leading scorer, will be making his second trip to the induction ceremonies in as many years. He was enshrined last summer as part of the 1992 U.S. Olympic basketball team.

Standing a few feet from Rodman, the straight-laced Mullin, complete with crewcut, pointed to the dynamic

personalities in the group as proof of basketball's global reach.

"That's what this game is about, anyone can contribute," he said.

For VanDerveer, Monday's announcement was bittersweet, coming just hours after her Stanford team lost 63-62 to Texas A&M in a national semifinal in Indianapolis.

"This is kind of a tough morning to

be a basketball coach for me waking up after our loss last night," she said on a conference call. "This opportunity to be enshrined in Naismith is an incredible honor, and I'm overwhelmed by it."

In December, VanDerveer became the sixth woman to get 800 coaching victories.

"It's the ultimate compliment to a coach or basketball player," she

said. "I'm humbled and honored. You should be really excited about it, but I wish it hadn't come on this day. I'm not feeling great about myself or how we played. You go back and think about all the things I could have done or should have done. The sun didn't come up this morning here."

For longtime Philadelphia University coach Magee, the all-time, all-division NCAA wins leader with 922 career victories, this is heady territory. He only got into coaching only after turning down an offer to work for a chemical company.

"I coached the JV team when I first got started and we had some success and I knew 'this is what I should be doing,'" Magee said.

Edwards won four gold medals while playing on five U.S. Olympic teams and starred collegiately at Georgia, taking the Bulldogs to two Final Fours. She enjoyed a lengthy professional career both in the U.S. and overseas and is now the director of player personnel for the WNBA's Tulsa Shock.

"I feel like the little girl gets to play with all the big boys again," Edwards said. "It's like how I started, going from begging to play with them to being the first one chosen. I feel like this time I get to share the spotlight with the biggest boys in the world."

Gilmore was elected by the Hall's ABA committee. Gilmore is a member of the all-time ABA team and was a six-time NBA All-Star who scored more than 24,000 career points.

The class also includes Sabonis, one of the greatest passing centers in basketball history. The Lithuanian-born Sabonis was among the first European players to successfully transition to the NBA, spending nearly a decade with the Portland Trail Blazers.

## Playoff berth ends miserable stretch for Knicks



GREENBURGH, N.Y. (AP)—Even while chasing championships in Detroit, Chauncey Billups couldn't help but notice the comedy of errors playing in New York.

Larry Brown, his beloved coach with the Pistons, lasted just one tumultuous season with the Knicks before a contentious parting that went all the way to Commissioner David Stern's office. Isiah Thomas, one of the all-time greats as a Detroit player, became a spectacular failure here as a coach and executive.

In New York City, the Motor City and beyond, the Knicks had become a punch line.

"Anything that goes on in New York is everywhere. It's not just in y'all's papers, it's kind of everywhere," Billups said Monday, a day after the Knicks clinched their first playoff berth since 2004. "So I followed that, man, and it was, it was kind of unpleasant to see that."

OK, so maybe the Knicks weren't quite the Clippers. The longtime losers from Los Angeles have been the NBA's standard when it comes to failed franchises.

On the court, though, the Knicks were even worse. From the start of the 2004-05 season to the end of 2009-10, only the Minnesota Timberwolves were worse—by three wins—than

New York, which compiled a .352 winning percentage, according to STATS, LLC.

Throw in a sexual harassment lawsuit against Thomas and Madison Square Garden by a former franchise executive, the drama involving Stephon Marbury, and it seemed everyone was laughing at the Knicks.

"What I found here is that everyone wants to mock the Knicks because they don't really want to see them get good," team president Donnie Walsh said. "I didn't. In Indiana, I did not want to see the Knicks get good because they could be good for a long time."

Maybe they're on their way.

Though the Knicks' drought matched Minnesota's for the NBA's longest, they won't be an inexperienced club when they return to the big stage in less than two weeks. Billups, Amare Stoudemire and Carmelo Anthony have all played deep into the postseason, meaning the Knicks' core would be as tested as anyone outside of Boston among Eastern Conference teams.

"We have three guys who expected to be there," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "So it's not like, 'look we did.' This is a normal day for them."

Nothing about the Knicks was normal before Walsh and D'Antoni arrived in 2008.

Shortly after Thomas was hired

in late 2003, he thought he had the franchise player who would lead the Knicks to perennial playoff appearances when he acquired Marbury from Phoenix. They would make the postseason that spring before they were swept by the New Jersey Nets.

Marbury would eventually feud with Thomas and just about everyone else, including Brown, who went 23-59 in 2005-06 before Madison Square Garden chairman James Dolan fired him and attempted to withhold the remaining four years on his contract, saying Brown was fired for violating MSG rules. The matter went before Stern before the sides eventually settled.

Anthony, like Marbury and Brown a Brooklyn native, was too busy with his own career in Denver to pay much attention to what was happening in New York. But he could tell how much it meant that playoff basketball back was coming back to New York from the excitement of the fans following Sunday's 123-107 victory over Cleveland.

"As fans and as students of the game, we know how hard it was for the New York Knicks, the franchise, and for the city to have to go through that, not making the playoffs year in and year out, not having nothing to look forward to in the postseason," Anthony said. "So now we want to change that."

D'Antoni, a regular 50-game win-

ner in Phoenix, had to endure two 50-loss seasons in New York while the Knicks implemented Walsh's plan to clear enough cap space to sign two superstar free agents last summer. Stoudemire was the first and he vowed the Knicks would return to prominence, making the clinching victory special for him.

"Any time you accomplish a goal, you really have a sense of pride," Stoudemire said. "After that game last night, I felt extremely emotional. I sat down with friends and family and were having a conversation about the hard work that took place to get to this point, and so we really cherished the moment last night, but now it's time to get back on track."

The Knicks (38-38) will spend the remaining six games trying to finish with their first winning record since going 48-34 in 2000-01. They are 1 1/2 games behind the 76ers for the No. 6 seed, with a game in Philadelphia on Wednesday.

Then it's on to what they believe is the first of many postseasons. The misery of the last six years is over, and Anthony says the standards are higher now.

"We've just got to win games," he said. "We have a team now that we want to build on, be better, compete at a high level every year, but anything less than playoffs is a failure for us from here on out."

# Prado, Uggla rally Braves past Brewers



**MILWAUKEE**  
(AP)—Martin Prado and Dan Uggla hom-

ered off Takashi Saito in the eighth inning, rallying the Atlanta Braves to a 2-1 victory and spoiling the Milwaukee Brewers' home opener on Monday.

Rickie Weeks continued his impressive start for winless Milwaukee with his third homer. But the Brewers are 0-4 after getting swept at Cincinnati to begin the season.

Peter Moylan (1-0) got three outs to earn the win and Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth for his second save.

Prado equalized with his leadoff drive in the eighth. Saito (0-1) got two outs before Uggla hit a deep fly to left-center that hit off the top of the wall and bounced over.

Atlanta starter Brandon Beachy and Milwaukee's Chris Narveson each tossed six sparkling innings.

## Cubs 4, Diamondbacks 1

At Chicago, Randy Wells overcame a shaky start to pitch six solid innings and Kerry Wood escaped a bases-loaded jam in the eighth as Chicago beat Arizona.

Alfonso Soriano homered and drove in two runs for the Cubs. Carlos Marmol, who blew a save in Sunday's loss to the Pirates, worked the ninth for his second of the season.

Wells (1-0), hoping to regain the form of his 2009 rookie season, out-pitched Diamondbacks left-hander Joe Saunders (0-1) on an overcast afternoon at Wrigley Field.

Willie Bloomquist hit his first career leadoff homer for Arizona.

## Pirates 4, Cardinals 3

At St. Louis, Charlie Morton won his first road game since the end of 2009 in a 47-degree chill as Pittsburgh stunned St. Louis starter Kyle Lohse with a four-run sixth inning.

In a span of four pitches, Lohse (0-1) issued his first walk all year, then allowed Neil Walker's two-run double and Andrew McCutchen's second homer to put Pittsburgh ahead 4-1.

Joel Hanrahan got four outs to preserve a one-run lead for his third save in three chances for the Pirates, who are 3-1 on the road to start the year after going a major league-worst 17-64 away from home last season.

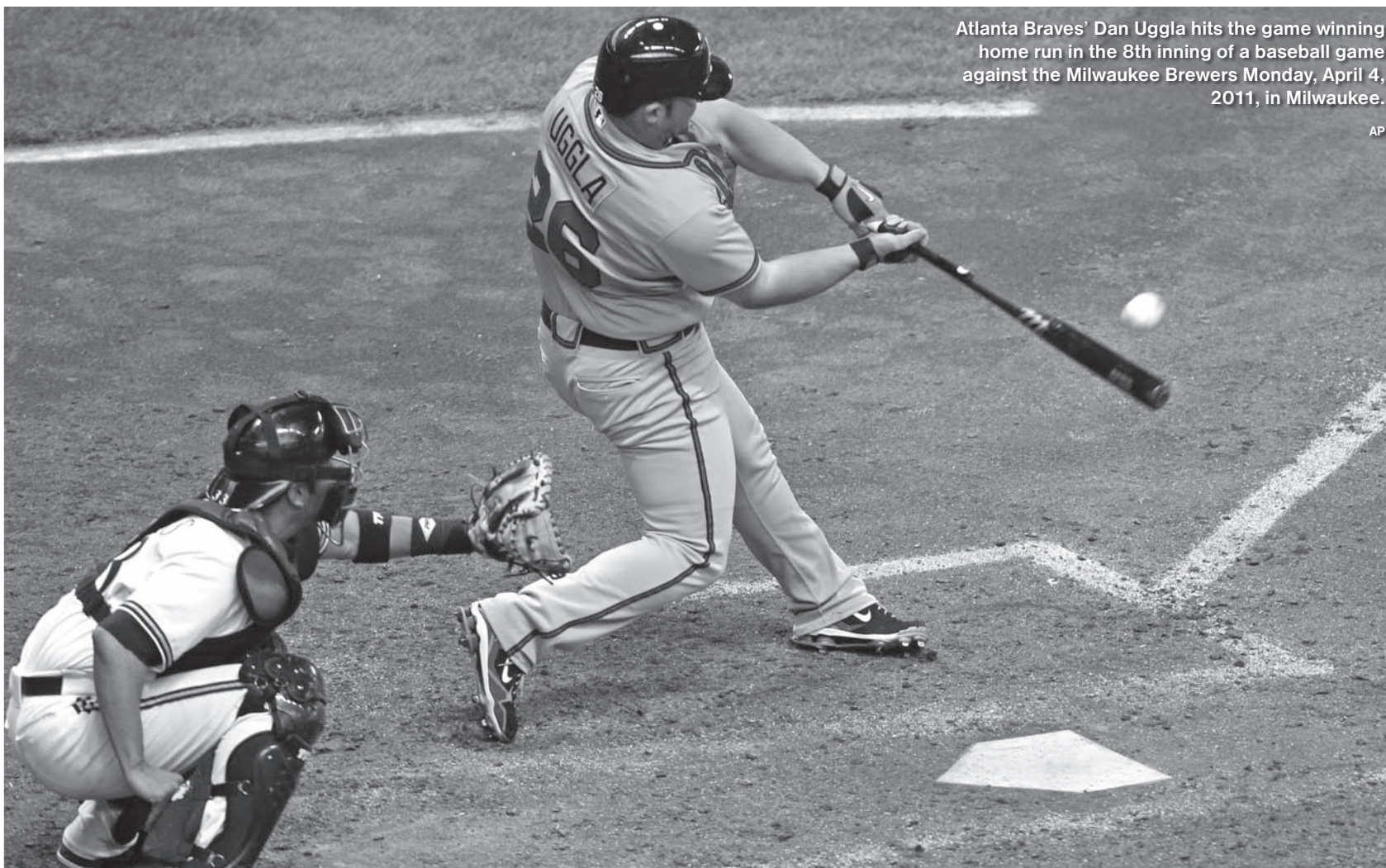
The Cardinals were 1 for 9 with runners in scoring position and 2 for 16 with men on base against Morton (1-0) and four relievers. Albert Pujols was 0 for 3 with a walk and is 2 for 16 with a homer and one RBI thus far.

## Orioles 5, Tigers 1

At Baltimore, Brian Roberts hit a three-run homer and Jake Arrieta allowed one run in six innings as the unbeaten Baltimore Orioles thrilled a sellout crowd in their home opener by defeating the Detroit Tigers.

On a gorgeous afternoon at Camden Yards, the Orioles extended a surprising winning streak that began with a three-game sweep at Tampa Bay. Off to its best start since 1997, Baltimore (4-0) has not yet trailed, hasn't given up more than one run in a game and has outscored the competition 17-4.

With the score tied at 1-1 in the fifth, Felix Pie walked and went to third on a double by J.J. Hardy before Roberts hit a 1-2 pitch from Rick Porcello (0-



Atlanta Braves' Dan Uggla hits the game winning home run in the 8th inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers Monday, April 4, 2011, in Milwaukee.

AP

## Feds say lost recording of Bonds' doctor reappears

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Prosecutors in the federal case against Barry Bonds say a key witness has rediscovered the tape of a secretly recorded 15-minute conversation with the slugger's doctor, sparking a fight between the government and defense lawyers over whether the new material can be included at a trial years in the making.

On a day when there was no testimony because a juror was ill, the government said Monday that former Bonds business partner Steve Hoskins found a cassette recording of his conversation with Dr. Arthur Ting.

Prosecutors, hoping to counter Ting's testimony last week that he never discussed Bonds' alleged steroid use with Hoskins—who insisted they had—said both men might be recalled to the witness stand.

"Mostly, I could hear Mr. Hoskins. I could hear very little of what Dr. Ting said," U.S. District Judge Susan Illston told lawyers late Monday. She added that that from what she could discern, the new recording was "almost entirely inadmissible or irrelevant."

The trial began March 21, and prosecutors had planned to rest their case Monday with Dr. Don Catlin, former head of the UCLA Olympic Analytical Laboratory. But they now plan to call three lab workers, raising the government's witness total to 25. That, plus the new evidence, makes it likely the case won't go to the jury before next week.

Hoskins, the government's second witness, testified he recorded a conversation with Ting discussing Bonds and steroids in 2003 or 2004, after federal agents raided the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative (BALCO). BALCO was found to be the center of a steroids distribution ring, of which Bonds' personal trainer was a part.

Ting testified last week that he had

only one, general conversation with Hoskins about steroids and he denied Hoskins' testimony that the two had as many as 50 discussions about Bonds and performance-enhancing drugs.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Parrella said federal agent Jeff Novitzky picked up the recording from Hoskins' house at 10 p.m. Sunday night but that Hoskins did not know whether the Olympus recorder he turned over at the same time was the machine used to tape the conversation. Novitzky then made a digital recording of the tape, which the government said was originally made at Ting's office in Fremont.

The tape and recorder are being taken to the office of a defense expert on Tuesday morning. While preliminary transcripts of the recording were made by the prosecution and the defense, they were not released Monday.

Illston said the contents of the tape were not very substantive, and that "almost all of this is people's comments being driven by what is said to be newspaper articles and news reports" from around the time of the BALCO raid.

"This will never come into evidence," said Bonds' lead lawyer, Allen Ruby.

Parrella said the government wanted to use the tape to establish a conversation about steroids happened, "not the accuracy of the statements within it."

Defense lawyer Cristina Arguedas said the recording had been subject to a grand jury subpoena in 2005 and questioned why it hadn't been turned over to the defense until now.

Arguedas and prosecutors already were clashing over the prosecution's failure to disclose notes of a 2006 interview with Ting, two days before his grand jury testimony. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Nedrow maintained

last week the meeting wasn't substantive, but the defense gave the court a statement from Matthew Jacobs, a former lawyer for Ting, stating the session "was substantive and lasted approximately three hours."

Illston wanted to know "why a report wasn't generated?" Nedrow maintained it would be duplicative to take notes of meetings prior to testimony.

Bonds, baseball's season and career home run leader, is charged with four counts of making false statements and one count of obstruction of justice for telling a grand jury in 2003 that he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs and received injections only from physicians.

The eighth day of testimony was postponed because juror No. 66—names won't be revealed until the day after a verdict—was sick with kidney stones. The Antioch resident, age 60, is a father of four and former helicopter pilot in the Vietnam War who works as a data center engineer for Amazon.com.

He had a doctor's appointment Monday afternoon, and was given a prescription for Tylenol with codeine.

"I think we just should be prepared to act swiftly if we need to excuse his presence," Illston said.

There are only two alternates, and the first alternate—juror No. 110—is a woman who works part time at a restaurant. If the juror is replaced by the alternate, there would be nine women and three men on the panel.

When the trial resumes Tuesday, Catlin and the lab workers will testify and portions of Bonds' grand jury testimony will be read to the jury.

Starting Wednesday, each juror will get a \$10 raise to \$50 a day for serving on the case.

1) over the wall in right-center. Roberts has Baltimore's only two home runs this season.

Nick Markakis followed with his third hit, a double, and Matt Wieters delivered a two-out RBI single for a 5-1 lead.

## Yankees 4, Twins 3

At New York, Alex Rodriguez and Jorge Posada each hit a two-run homer and rookie Ivan Nova kept New York ahead in a win over Minnesota.

Joba Chamberlain, Rafael Soriano and Mariano Rivera each pitched a scoreless inning to close the Yankees' 15th victory in their last 16 home tries against Minnesota—that includes wins in New York's opening-round playoff sweeps over the Twins the last two years.

Rodriguez lined his 615th homer in the first, then Posada connected the next inning for his third home run in two days. The shots off Scott Baker (0-1) gave the Yankees 11 home runs through their first four games.

Jim Thome had a two-run double for the Twins.

## Rangers 6, Mariners 4

At Arlington, Texas, Nelson Cruz became the third player in major league history to hit home runs in the first four games of a season as Texas beat Seattle to remain one of four unbeaten teams in the big leagues.

Texas (4-0) is off to its best start since opening 7-0 in 1996, following up a three-game weekend sweep of Boston. Cruz joined Willie Mays (1971) and Mark McGwire (1998) as the only players to go deep in each of their first four games of a season.

Derek Holland (1-0) allowed three runs and seven hits with five strikeouts in six innings. Neftali Feliz worked a perfect ninth for his first save.

Elvis Andrus got the Rangers rolling in the first inning with his first homer in 705 at-bats. Julio Borbon had a two-run triple.



# Northern Stars trump Ol'Aces, 5-1

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Natibu Northern Stars' Joshua Jones pitched a two-hitter with 14 strikeouts in last Monday's Saipan Little League Big Division game against the Docomo Ol'Aces at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Jones also batted 3-for-3 with a pair of doubles for two RBIs and a run to help his cause, while the Ol'Aces' sole run came off an error in the fifth inning.

Other winning teams from Sunday include IT&E Fielders and Saipan Shipping-Pacific Amusement Jets in the Junior League and the Senior League's Tan Holdings Fielders.

IT&E edged out Natibu Fal-



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
Natibu Northern Stars' Joshua Jones pitched a two-hitter with 14 strikeouts and batted 3-for-3 with a pair of doubles for two RBIs and a run in last Monday's Big League game against the Docomo Ol'Aces at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

cons, 6-5, in nine innings, the Jets narrowly defeated the Rep. Ramon S. Basa Lions, 9-8, and the Fielders rolled over the Rep. Rafael Demapan Heats, 13-1, in six frames.

In addition, Major League games have resumed at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

The weekend matchups will continue as scheduled, however the Saipan Little League Baseball will be conducting makeup games on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 4pm; only one game per day.

## Northern Stars 5, Ol'Aces 1

Northern Stars broke the ice with an RBI single by Joshua Jones in the top of the first inning.

The Ol'Aces came up empty in the bottom frame but man-

aged to clear the no-hitter off the table for Northern Stars stand-out hurler Jones thanks to a base rip by Keoni Lizama.

Both teams went 1-2-3 in the second inning and Jones cranked an RBI double in the top of the third to put his team ahead, 2-0; the Ol'Aces left a man at third base in the bottom frame.

The Ol'Aces managed their only run in the bottom of the fifth from Eli Aughenbaugh who reached and scored off errors, but Northern Stars answered with three runs in the top of the sixth inning.

David Jones belted an RBI single, Ben Lizama squeezed a run to the plate off a bunt, and the other run came in off an error.

Jones managed to finish the game without being pulled out as he had two throws left on his pitch count when the potential last batter stepped into the box; Jones struck him out.

Jones allowed zero earned runs off two hits and two walks with 14 strikeouts. He batted

3-for-3 with two RBIs, a run, and a base on balls.

Ol'Aces' Harry Nakamura allowed just one earned run off five hits, three walks, a hit batsman, and pitched a heck of a game in his own right.

## JUNIOR LEAGUE Jets 9, Lions 8

The Lions scored two runs off errors in the first inning and went ahead, 6-0, in the top of the third off an RBI groundout by Brel Yobech, a wild pitch, and an RBI double by Cory Camacho, who later came home off an error.

The Jets then answered with four runs in the bottom frame. The Lions added a run to start the fourth off a ground out, but the Jets pulled within a run, 6-7, in the bottom frame.

Both teams then came up empty in the fifth and the Lions added a run off a wild pitch at the start of the sixth, but the Jets came back and tied the game at 8-all in the bottom frame.

See **NORTHERN** on Page 26

# Hopwood 1 wins MISO Jr. High girls softball title

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Hopwood Junior High School 1 defeated Chacha Junior High School 1, 16-1, in yesterday's Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization's Girls Slow-Pitch Softball League championship game at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

Chacha 1 knocked out Hopwood 2, 12-2 to advance to the finals last week. Hopwood 2 was awarded third place via forfeit by Chacha 2 in the consolation game that was scheduled to take place just before the championship match. Four teams made up the league.

Hopwood 1 amassed a 12-0 lead in the first inning and held strong on defense to take home the 2011 championship trophy.

Chacha did not answer in the bottom frame and Hopwood 1 added two more runs to its lead in the top of the second inning.

Chacha's Catalina Dela Cruz hammered an inside-the-park homerun in the bottom frame to account for her team's only spark of offense, but Hopwood got the run back at the start of the third inning.

Hopwood 1 went on to add another run in the top of the



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
Hopwood Junior High School 1 poses for a photo after downing Chacha Junior High School 1, 16-1, in yesterday's Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization's Girls Slow-Pitch Softball League championship game at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

fourth and both teams came up empty in the final three innings.

Hopwood 1 is made up of Ayana Ongelungel, Keolani Rios, Anna Hemley, Corina Suda, Sonya Isaac, Sabrina Pangelinan, Malaina Kileleman, Angela Achime, Josleen Shoking, Juljean Ngeskebei, Rochelle Muungwaath, and Jahnelle

Francisco with coaches Didi Tudela and Vanessa Mobel.

Other junior high school MISO events include today's boys soccer consolation and championship games at Hopwood soccer field at 3:30pm and 4:30pm, respectively.

The MISO boys soccer finals is set between top-ranked Epi

against Williams, preceded by third-ranked Manning squaring off against Ronald.

Back on Monday, Williams advanced to the finals via forfeit by Ronald, while Epi downed Manning, 4-2.

MISO's volleyball and basketball leagues are expected to start soon as well.

## MBT tryouts for U15 players begin Saturday

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Basketball Association of Northern Marianas Islands will start this Saturday its series of tryouts for the CNMI national teams that will compete in the 2011 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 Western Division in Palau.

BANMI national development coach Elias Rangamar said tryouts will be for both boys and

girls and will last for more than a month in time for the MBT in June. The tryouts are open for all U15 players. The girls tryouts will run from 1pm to 2:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, while the boys will have their turn from 3pm to 4:30pm.

"At the first day of the trials, we will be briefing the players about the schedule of training sessions, the selection process, and other matters related to MBT," Rangamar said in a telephone interview with *Saipan*

*Tribune* yesterday.

In Palau, CNMI players will be competing against the bets of Guam, Yap, and the host island-nation. The tournament in Palau will be the first in the region under the banner of the Micronesian Basketball Confederation, which was revived only last year during the 2010 Micronesian Games.

MBC together with host Palau Basketball Federation required each team to submit a preliminary list of 20 players, three coaches, and two officials

on April 20. By May 20, only 15 players, two coaches, and one official should be on the list. Then on June 20, each team should list a 12-player roster, two coaches, and one official.

Only players born on or after June 25, 1995 are allowed to participate MBT. Once a player played for one MBC member, he or she cannot switch teams without permission from MBC executive board.

The 2011 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 Western Division will run from June 20 to 24 at the Palau National Stadium.

## Mixed A doubles semis cast complete

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Final Four in the mixed A doubles division of the 2011 Tan Holdings Mixed/Doubles Badminton Competition was completed over the weekend at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

Making it to the semifinals were the tandems of Dick Guintu and Hannah Choi, Andrew Galvez and Angie Ito, Hapi Gabriel and Malou Malasarte, and Saul Gargallo and Marlene Peraja.

Guintu and Choi booked the first semis ticket after they went undefeated in seven games in the round-robin elimination play. Ito and Galvez and Gabriel and Malasarte finished the elimination round with similar 5-2 slates, but the first pair won the tiebreak and the No. 2

sets won against the

latter's 12. Gargallo and Peraja notched the last semis berth after posting a 4-3 mark.

In the semifinals this weekend, Guintu and Choi will duel Gargallo and Peraja, while Galvez and Ito will take on Gabriel and Malasarte. Winners of the two semis games will battle for the championship this Sunday.

The two other mixed doubles competitions—B and C divisions—are only in the quarterfinal round.

In Class B doubles, the quarterfinals pairings are Gerry Hibi and Lucelle Lampera vs. Lani Bartolome and Jojo Lazaro; Noli Santos and Michelle Caleon vs. Eric Pena and Merlie Savellano; Gary Bandoja and Heo In Souk vs. Edwin Maratas and Lot

Abuel; and Rodwealth Espana and Merlie Tolentino vs. Jojo and Jen Savellano.

The quarterfinalists were the Top 2 placers in each of the three pools in Class B.

Class C mixed doubles also had three pools and seven had already made it to the next round. The list includes Father Charley Borja and Windy Fernandez, Luis Camacho and Elna Curate, Ric Brien and Jen Savellano, Sang Do and Angela Park, Lee Chon Hee and Kimbo Ranah, On An Yeol and Hwang Meong, and Eydie Uy and Malou Mendoza. Five pairs will fight for the remaining quarterfinals berth tonight and on Friday.

Also waiting for one more qualifier is the men's A doubles, which had only three qualifiers in Ferdie Arago and Hibi, Galvez and Montoya,

and Guintu and Diola. Macoi Aguda and Matatsu Omori

hold a 2-3 record with two games left and have the strongest chance among four teams to make it to the next round.

In the men's C division, the semis games of qualifiers Son Jae Ok and Oh An Yeol, Borja and Jerome Malasarte, Kanata Omori and Brandon Talania, and Uy and Noel Ong last week are rescheduled to this weekend.

In the men's B doubles, four quarterfinals matches will be played this weekend. The pairings are Diola and Narlo Achas vs. Wowie Abuel and Lazaro; Bandoja and Oh Imbog vs. Lito Mendoza and Alvin Alvarez; Maratas and Jorge Olanda vs. Sam Jones and Glenn Buultjens; and Noli Santos and Rommel Catalma vs. Gargallo and John Revilla.

28 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# UConn defeats Butler for 3rd title

By EDDIE PELLIS  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

**H**OUSTON (AP)—The only thing that could stop Kemba Walker and Connecticut's amazing run was the final buzzer.

On a night when the massive arena felt like a dusty old gym, UConn made Butler look like the underdog it really was, winning the national championship Monday night with an old-fashioned, grinding 53-41 beatdown of the Bulldogs.

Walker finished with 16 points for the Huskies (32-9), who won their 11th straight game since closing the

regular season with a 9-9 Big East record that foreshadowed none of this.



They closed it out with a defensive showing for the ages, holding Butler to a 12-for-64 shooting. That's 18.8 percent, the worst ever in a title game.

It was one of the ugliest games anyone can remember

See UCONN on Page 26

## Connecticut has awesome second half to win crown

By JIM O'CONNELL  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

**H**OUSTON (AP)—Connecticut's great second half in the national championship game started with some words in the locker room from coach Jim Calhoun.

"The halftime speech was rather interesting," said Calhoun, who has been known to use his loud voice and some salty language to get his point across to his team. "We knew we could really defend them. ...

The major adjustment was we were going to out-will them and outwork them, and eventually we outplayed them."

The Huskies answered their coach's demands by holding Butler to 16.2 percent shooting in the second half of their 53-41 victory Monday night that made Calhoun just the fifth coach to win three national titles.

The Bulldogs shot a Final Four-record low 18.8 percent from the field (12 of 64). The 12

See CONNECTICUT on Page 26



Connecticut's Kemba Walker holds the championship trophy after his team won the men's NCAA basketball championship game against Butler, 53-41, Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston.

AP

## Woeful shooting costs Butler its second chance

By NANCY ARMOUR  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

**H**OUSTON (AP)—Butler couldn't go inside. It couldn't score outside. Its shots were blocked all night long.

Forget the last-second heave. When it came to winning this championship, the Bulldogs played down to their size.

Butler set a record for worst shooting percentage in the NCAA title game, a woeful 18.8 percent, and managed the second-fewest field goals, making only 12 baskets in its 53-41 loss to Connecticut on Monday night.

It is the second straight year the Bulldogs (28-10) finish as runners-up, after losing 61-59 to Duke last year. The loss snapped Butler's 14-game win-

ning streak.

"You just hope the shots go in," said senior Zach Hahn, who was 0 for 2 after giving Butler a big lift in the semifinals. "That's how it's been all tournament. Whenever we needed a big shot, somebody came up with it. I guess we just ran out of steam. Nobody could make 'em."

Shelvin Mack, who averaged almost 22 points in the first five games in the tournament, was Butler's only player to finish in double figures—and he managed only 13 on 4-of-15 shooting. Leading scorer Matt Howard made his only field goal about five minutes into the game, finishing with seven points in 13 shot attempts.

It was Howard's fewest points since scoring six in the

See WOEFUL on Page 26



Connecticut head coach Jim Calhoun holds the net after his team won the men's NCAA basketball championship game against Butler, 53-41, Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston.

AP



Butler's Matt Howard reacts in the locker room after his team lost the men's NCAA basketball championship game to Connecticut, 53-41, Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston.

AP